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THE

THEOLOGICAL WORKS

OF THE

REV. JOHN JOHNSON, M.A.,

VICAR OF CRANBROOK IN THE DIOCESE OF CANTERBURY.

VOLUME II.

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THE
UNBLOODY SACRIFICE,
A N D
A L T A R,
UNVAILED and SUPPORTED.

IN WHICH

The nature of the Eucharist is explained according to the sentiments of the Christian Church in the four first centuries.

Part the S E C O N D.

S H E W I N G ,

The Agreement and Disagreement of the Eucharist with the Sacrifices of the Ancients, and the Excellency of the former.

The great Moment of the Eucharist both as a Feast and Sacrifice.

The Necessity of frequent *Communion.*

The Unity of the *Eucharist.*

The Nature of *Excommunication.*

And the Primitive Method of *Preparation.*

With DEVOTIONS for the ALTAR.

I deny not, but that the Fathers do, and that with great reason, very much magnify the wonderful Mystery, and Efficacy of this Sacrament, and frequently speak of a great Supernatural Change made by the Divine Benediction; which we also readily acknowledge. Archbishop TILLOTSON, in his Discourse of Transubstantiation, Page 291. of his Works in Folio, publish'd in his Life-time.

Veritati nemo præscribere potest, non spatium temporum, non patrocinia personarum.
Tertul. de Virg. veland.

By JOHN JOHNSON, A.M.

L O N D O N:

Printed for ROBERT KNAPOCK, at the *Bishop's-Head*
in St. Paul's Church-Yard. MDCCXVIII.



THE PREFACE.

I HAVE in this Second Part finished my intended work on the Unbloody Sacrifice: and as I see no cause to distrust the strength of those reasons and authorities by which I have endeavoured to establish it; so I desire my reader to observe, that the same arguments, by which I have confirmed the doctrine of the Christian Sacrifice, do at the same time effectually serve the common cause of Apostolical Truth in some very considerable points; for,

I. By the method here used to prove the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, it will evidently appear, that Christ's natural Body might be, and was, a true proper Sacrifice, and that Himself was a real sacrificing Priest, though His Blood was never sprinkled on any Altar, nor any part of His Body burnt by the hands of Himself or any other priest; and therefore the objections made by the Socinians^a against the perfection of our Saviour's Sacrifice on this account, do all fall to the ground. And it is no small satisfaction to me, that the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, and the personal Sacrifice of Christ, do rest upon the same foundation, and stand and fall together.

II. By the doctrine here advanced, Transubstantiation is torn up by the root: for the only specious argument for that doctrine is this, that our Saviour bids His Disciples eat that very Body of His, which was given or offered to God for them; and if He had never offered any but His natural Body, then it must be confessed that this argument would be of some weight. But now the sum and substance of the true doctrine of the Eucharist I take to be this, that what Christ offered to God, and gave to His Disciples to eat, was

^a [Vid. Responsio F. S. ad Epist. Joan. Niemojevii, inter Socini Opera, ed. 1656.]

consecrated Bread ; and that the reason why He honoured it with the title of His Body was, because He did, in offering the Bread to God, in His own intention offer His Body as a Sacrifice for the sins of men. If the Church of Rome had not departed from this doctrine of the Scriptures, as understood by the primitive Church, by supposing that Christ did twice offer His own personal Body, first in the Eucharist, afterward on the Cross, she could never have fallen into so absurd a notion as that of Transubstantiation. Christ's Sacramental Body must of necessity be a distinct thing from His natural Body, because He offered the first to God as a pledge and representation of the latter ; and by setting this doctrine upon its true primitive basis, we not only secure ourselves against this gross error of Transubstantiation, but also against the other odd conceits of the Lutherans and Calvinists, who will have it, that they receive the very natural Body of Christ in or at the Sacrament. I am too sensible that I have been defamed as a promoter of Popery, and particularly of the change of substance in the Eucharist ; I pray God forgive the authors of these slanders ; or, if they have sinned through ignorance only, I wish them a better understanding and a sounder judgment. It is certain the primitive doctrine, which I defend, is not only inconsistent with Transubstantiation, but with that Real Presence of the Body of Christ in the Eucharist, which is the common opinion of Protestants abroad.

III. The reasonableness of the Eucharist itself is, by the account here given of it, set in a true light. This can never be done by them who deny it to be a Sacrifice ; I mean, they can never assign a just reason why Christ commanded us to eat and drink the consecrated Bread and Wine as His Body and Blood. Christ might have called the leaves on which the Gospel is written by the name of His Body, with as much reason as He calls the Sacramental Bread so ; and He might have commanded us to eat them, as St. John did the little book : He might have given the title of His Blood to the water of Baptism, as well as to the Sacramental Wine, for any thing that has or can be said for clearing this matter by them who deny the Sacrifice of the Eucharist. But now, by the account here given, we have a very plain

reason, why we are to eat and drink the consecrated Bread and Wine, as Christ's Body and Blood; namely, because He offered them, and not the leaves of the Gospel, or the Baptismal water, as pledges of His natural Body and Blood to His Divine Father; and for that reason commanded them to be eaten and drunk, because it was the universal practice of the ancient people to feast on those things, which they had first offered in Sacrifice.

Many of our eminent Divines, after Dr. Cudworth, have indeed affirmed that the Eucharist is "a feast on a Sacrifice;" but then they have denied that the Sacrifice is offered in the Eucharist, and have asserted that it was offered once only on the Cross. This notion is liable to many just objections; for,

I. Upon this supposition our Saviour made a feast upon the Sacrifice, before the Sacrifice had been offered. The Sacrifice, according to them, was offered on the Cross many hours after the feast of the Eucharist was ended; but now it is exceeding preposterous^b, and contrary to the very nature of things as well as all the ancient established method of sacrifice, to eat or make a feast on a sacrifice that has not yet been offered.

II. If the consecrated Bread and Wine were not offered by Christ as the representatives of His Body and Blood, and are not now so offered by the Church, then it cannot be said that the Eucharist is a feast on a Sacrifice; unless you will say, that this Bread and Wine are converted into the substance of Christ's Sacrificed Body and Blood, and so run into the absurd and justly abhorred doctrine of Transubstantiation.

III. Nay, I must add, that, upon this supposition, the Eucharist is a feast on a Sacrifice, which now has no being in the nature of things; for the natural Body and Blood of Christ, as they are represented in the Eucharist, separate from each other, are now no where in the universe. Unless then the consecrated Bread and Wine be the Sacri-

^b Ἀθύτα φαγεῖν, to fall on before the oblation was made, to eat at a religious feast before the rites of sacrifice were ended, was proverbially absurd. [This may be illustrated by an expres-

sion of Damascius, apud Suidam: Ἐδεῖτο μέν οἱ τὸ σῶμα κρεωφαγίας, ἀθύτου δὲ οὐκ ἡνέσχετο μεταλαβεῖν. Vid. Suidam, sub voce Ἀθύτους. Ed. Cant. 1705.]

fice on which we feast, it is certain that both the Sacrifice and the feast must be a mere airy notion.

In truth, it seems exceeding probable, that Christ could not, while He was alive, offer His Body and Blood as substantially separated from each other; because it does not appear that any Blood did flow from Christ's Body, till the soldier pierced His side with a spear; and that St. John does therefore give his testimony to this matter of fact with great solemnity, lest any doubt should be made of Christ's Blood being actually shed. The nails, with which His hands and feet were fastened to the Cross, did probably so fill the orifices made by them, that no blood could issue from thence till those nails were drawn in order to take His Body down from the Cross; and if this reasoning be just, then it is in the nature of things impossible that Christ could offer His natural Body and Blood apart, while He was alive upon the Cross: and sure no one will say that He offered them while His soul was in Hades, that is, in the state of the dead. What therefore He could not offer in substance, He offered by representation in the Eucharist.

And by this means we are enabled to give a clear and plain reason, why St. Paul^c calls the offering made by Christ, Sacrifices, in the plural number; namely, because He not only offered the Bread and Wine, but offered them as pledges and representations of His natural Body and Blood.

The First Part of this work was composed for the use of them who had leisure and inclination to enter into the more abstruse part of this controversy. Since my publication of it, I have been desired by persons of great worth and judgment to draw up a scheme of this doctrine, and in as narrow a compass and as plain a style as possible, for the information of such readers as do not care to concern themselves with books that require long and earnest application. I have accordingly so contrived this Second Part, that though it be much less than the former, and be chiefly intended to complete my whole design on this subject; yet the full view of the Sacrifice of the Eucharist may be taken from this

^c Heb. ix. 23. It was therefore necessary, that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with

these, but the heavenly things themselves with better Sacrifices than these.

volume. To this end I have been obliged to repeat some things in the Introduction that have been said in the First Part ; and yet I may call them improvements rather than bare repetitions. And that a middling reader might be capable of understanding the book, I have always endeavoured to express myself in the most known common words that our language affords, or at least that I could find. The subject is seemingly new ; for whatever is so old as to be out of use, has an appearance of novelty in the eyes of the present generation : but, in truth, the Sacrifice of the Eucharist is as old as Christianity itself ; and Sacrifice in general is as old as mankind. Now to revive these notions, which have long since been out of date, and to express the opinions and practices of the ancients in the language of the present age, and to do it in such a manner as to render their thoughts agreeable to the relish of common English readers, is no easy matter. However my end was to be understood by all ; if I miss of my aim, the reader is to impute it to my want of words.

It is now above two years and a half since the First Part was published ; during this time a large and learned book^d has been printed chiefly on this subject in Latin, by Mons. Pfaffy, a Lutheran Divine, tutor to the young Prince of Wurtemberg. The author has taken on himself the office of a mediator in this dispute ; and has indeed said many things that highly deserve the approbation of all, who maintain the doctrine of the Sacrifice in the Eucharist. He^e freely declares his judgment, that the universal practice of all Churches of old is clearly on our side ; and that they who deny it must be perfectly ignorant of the antiquities of the Church. He is unwilling to allow that our Saviour was the author of it^f, but owns it to be an institution of the Apostles or of some of them. He declares it ridiculous^g to suppose that the ancients by their Oblation and Sacrifice meant no more than *prayer* ; he confesses, that not only Irenæus and

^d S. Irenæi Episcopi Lugdunensis Fragmenta Anecdotæ.—Quæ [ex Bibliotheca Taurinensi eruit,] Latinâ versione notisque donavit, duabus Dissertationibus de Oblatione et Consecratione Eucharistiæ illustravit, et Dis-

sertatione de prejudiciis Theologicis auxit Christophor. Matth. Pfaffius, Hagæ Comitum, Anno 1715.

^e p. 183.

^f Ibid.

^g p. 50.

Justin Martyr^h, but both the Clements of Rome and Alexandriaⁱ, do speak of a Sacrifice or Oblation of Bread and Wine. He owns^k that Bread and Wine are called a Sacrifice of praise; that^l they are called gifts and spiritual Sacrifices; that the Eucharist may be called a propitiatory Sacrifice^m. He allows the Prayerⁿ of Oblation and Consecration in the eighth book of the Constitutions to be a very excellent one, worthy of so great a mystery, and with which he himself is very much edified; and does most particularly^o magnify the Prayer of the same Constitutions for the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Bread and Wine in the Eucharist: nay, in his Preface^p, he goes so far as to declare, that he does agree with the Reverend Dr. Hickes in his notion of the Sacrifice. But we are especially obliged to thank this gentleman for not concealing a fragment of Irenæus, in which the doctrine of the Sacrifice of the Eucharist is so directly affirmed; the translation of which I here present to my reader. “They^q, who have

^h p. 268—274.

ⁱ p. 254, 278. I am singularly obliged to Mons. Pfaffy for discovering this passage in Clem. Alex. Strom., lib. i. p. 317. Sylburg. The words are, ‘Αρτον καὶ ὄδωρ οὐκ ἐπ’ ἄλλων τινῶν, ἀλλ’ ἡ ἐπὶ τῷ ἄρτῳ καὶ ὄδατι κατὰ τὴν προσφορὰν μὴ κατὰ τὸν κανόνα τῆς ἐκκλησίας, χρωμένων αἵρεσεων, ἐμφανώς ταπτούσης τῆς γραφῆς. Εἰσὶ γὰρ οἱ καὶ ὄδωρ ψιλὸν εὐχαριστοῦσι. He applies Prov. ix. 17. to certain heretics, who used only bread and water in the oblation; and this he declares to be contrary to the canon of the Church. We are not to wonder that Clement speaks so sparingly of these matters; for he was one, who professed an obstinate silence concerning religious mysteries. Strom., lib. i. Sylburg., p. 275. [p. 323. Ed. Potter,] and again Sylburg., p. 297. [p. 348, Potter.]

^k p. 338.

^l p. 330.

^m p. 211.

ⁿ p. 287.

^o p. 96, and through his whole treatise De Consecratione.

^p Pref., p. 6.

^q p. 25. Οἱ ταῖς δευτέραις τῶν ἀποστόλων διατάξεις παρηκολουθήκοτες ἴσασι τὸν Κύριον νέαν προσφορὰν ἐν τῇ καινῇ διαθήκῃ καθεστηκέναι, κατὰ τὸ Μαλαχίου τοῦ προφήτου Διότι ἀπὸ ἀνατολῶν τοῦ ἥλιον καὶ ἔως δυσμῶν τὸ

ὄνομά Μου δεδόξασται ἐν τοῖς ἔθνεσι, καὶ ἐν παντὶ τόπῳ θυμίαμα προσάγεται τῷ ὁνυματὶ Μου, καὶ θυσία καθαρὰ, ὥσπερ καὶ ὁ Ἰωάννης ἐν τῷ Ἀποκαλύψει λέγει· Τὰ θυμιάματα εἰσὶν αἱ προσευχαὶ τῶν ἀγίων· καὶ ὁ Παῦλος παρακαλεῖ ἡμᾶς παραστῆσαι τὰ σώματα ἡμῶν θυσίαν ἔωσαν, γίγιαν, εὐάρεστον τῷ Θεῷ, τὴν λογικὴν λατρείαν ἡμῶν· καὶ πάλιν ἀναφέρωμεν θυσίαν αἰνέσεως, τουτέστι, καρπὸν χειρέων. Αὗται μὲν αἱ προσφοραὶ οὐ κατὰ τὸν νόμον εἰσὶ, οὐ τὸ χειρόγραφον ἔξαλείψας δὲ Κύριος ἐν τοῦ μέσου ὕρκεν, ἀλλὰ κατὰ πνεῦμα· ἐν πνεύματι γὰρ καὶ ἀληθείᾳ δεῖ προσκυνεῖν τὸν Θεόν. Διότι καὶ ἡ προσφορὰ τῆς εὐχαριστίας οὐκ ἔστι σαρκικὴ ἀλλὰ πνευματικὴ, καὶ ἐν τούτῳ καθαρά. Προσφέρουμεν γὰρ τῷ Θεῷ τὸν ὄρτον καὶ τὸ ποτήριον τῆς εὐλογίας, εὐχαριστοῦντες Αὐτῷ, ὅτι τῇ γῇ ἐκέλευσε ἐκφύσαι τὸν καρπὸν τούτους εἰς τροφὴν ἡμετέραν· καὶ ἐνταῦθα τὴν προσφορὰν τελέσσωτες ἐκκαλούμεν τὸ Πινεύμα τὸ Ἀγιον, ὅπως ἀποφήνῃ τὴν θυσίαν ταῦτην καὶ τὸν ὄρτον Σάμαρο τοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ τὸ ποτήριον τὸ Αἷμα τοῦ Χριστοῦ, ἵνα οἱ μεταλαβόντες τούτων τῶν ἀντιτύπων τῆς ἀφέσεως τῶν ἀμαρτιῶν καὶ τῆς ἡώνιας αἰώνιον τύχωσιν. Οἱ οὖν ταῦτα τὰ προσφορὰς ἐν τῷ ἀναμνήσει τοῦ Κυρίου ἔγοντες οὐ τοῖς Ιουδαίοις δύγμασι προσέρχονται, ἀλλὰ πνευματικῶς λειτουργοῦντες τῆς σοφίας νιοὶ κληθήσονται.

attained to a perfect knowledge of the second Constitutions of the Apostles, are sensible that our Lord instituted a new Oblation in the New Testament, according to that of the Prophet Malachi, “For from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof, My Name is glorified among the heathen, and in every place incense is offered to My Name, and the pure oblation;” as John also in the Revelation says, “Incense is the prayer of the saints:” and Paul exhorts us, “to present our bodies a living sacrifice to God, which is our reasonable service:” and again, “Let us offer the sacrifice of praise, which is the oblation of our lips.” These oblations are not according to the Law, the hand-writing whereof the Lord hath taken away and blotted out; but according to the Spirit; for we ought to worship God in spirit and in truth. For this reason, the Oblation of the Eucharist is not carnal but spiritual, and therefore pure; for we offer to God the Bread and Cup of blessing, giving thanks to Him, for that He commanded the earth to bring forth these fruits for our nourishment; and afterwards, having performed the oblation, we invoke the Holy Spirit, that He may make this Sacrifice and Bread the Body of Christ, and the Cup the Blood of Christ; that they who partake of these antitypes may obtain remission of sins and everlasting life. They, therefore, who make these oblations in remembrance of our Lord, shall be called the sons of wisdom.”

It must be owned, this gentleman gives but a very imperfect account of his discovery of this and the other three fragments, which he has published, of this very ancient Father; he only tells his reader, that they were taken out of certain ancient books in the royal library at Turin, which contained extracts from the Fathers; but he does not so much as give an inquisitive reader any directions where to find these fragments, if he should have an opportunity of consulting the books from which they were transcribed. But I shall not enter into any dispute upon this head; if they are genuine, here is a new authority from the holy and apostolical Irenæus for the doctrine of the Sacrifice of the Eucharist; if they are not, yet we are sufficiently sure from the other printed works of this most ancient writer, that this was the doctrine and practice of the age in which he lived.

I will confess I see no reason why the words may not justly be thought Irenæus's. It is certain, that the holy Ignatius^r mentions the Constitutions of the Apostles, fifty or sixty years before Irenæus flourished. It does not from thence follow, that there was any book which then passed under that title. Indeed, all the whole scheme of Christianity seems to be called the Commandment of the Apostles by St. Peter, in the same sense that the whole Jewish system is called the Law of Moses ; but it seems most probable, that Ignatius, by the Constitutions of the Apostles, meant only the rules of worship and discipline settled by them. The main difficulty is, to know what Irenæus intended by the Second Constitutions, for this is an expression peculiar to this fragment. Yet I think a very probable account may be given of this too ; for there can be no doubt but that, in the age of Irenæus^s, there was a distinction between the Christians who had been baptized and admitted to the Communion, and those who had not ; and that the knowledge of the Eucharist, and the method of administering and receiving it, was imparted to the former only, and not to the latter. From hence a distinction might naturally arise between the First and Second Constitutions of the Apostles. For the generality of the rules, which were fixed by the Apostles for the worship of God and the government of the Church, could not be concealed from the Catechumens, though they were not baptized nor admitted to the Communion. By attending the Christian congregations, and being present while the hymns were sung, some prayers rehearsed, the Scriptures read, and the sermons preached, they could not be ignorant that the men were to pray and sing with their heads uncovered, the women with their heads covered ; that

^r Ad Trall., c. 7. Τοῦτο δὲ (*id est, cavere ab hereticis*) ἔσται δύναμις μὴ φυσιούμενοις, καὶ οὐδις ἀχωρίστοις Θεοῦ Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ, καὶ τοῦ ἐπισκόπου, καὶ τῶν διαταγμάτων τῶν Ἀποστόλων.

^s Vide Fragment. Irenæi ex Cœcumeno, in Grabe's Edition, p. 469. Tertullian, who was but a little more than twenty years junior to Irenæus, imputes it as a crime to the heretics, that they made no distinction between the catechumens and faithful. De

Præscript., c. 41. [“In primis quis catechumenus, quis fidelis, incertum est: pariter adeunt, pariter audiunt, pariter orant.”] And speaks of the silence concerning the Christian mysteries, as an established law of the Church, Apol., c. 7, 8. [He takes the line of defence from the nature of mysteries in general : “Cum vel ex forma omnibus mysteriis silentii fides debeat.”]

they were to abstain from meats offered to idols, and from fornication and blood. Further, before they were baptized, they must be informed in the nature of Baptism, and the questions and answers to be made upon that occasion ; for, I think, all judicious Divines acknowledge that these were used in the times of the Apostles. Now all these rites and observances, with several others not here mentioned, might justly be styled the First Constitutions of the Apostles, as being first made known to them who retained to the Christian congregations. By consequence, the Second Constitutions were such as concerned the Communicants only ; as the manner and method of administering the Eucharist, with all the prayers, rites, and usages thereunto belonging. It is certain the Catechumens were kept in ignorance as to these matters ; and when therefore after their Baptism they were let into the knowledge of them, they might justly esteem and call them the Second Constitutions of the Apostles. And there is a foundation for this distinction in those words of our Saviour to His Apostles, when He bids them, “ Go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost ;” for none could be disciples, but such as were permitted to hear them preach, and did practise what they heard in some measure ; (their infant children might indeed be disciples, though they could neither hear nor practise ; for so the child of a slave is a slave, the eldest son of a king is a king upon his father’s death, though neither the one can obey, nor the other command.) All grown men that attended the sermons of the Apostles were certainly disciples ; but when they had been baptized, then, and not before, our Saviour charges the Apostles “ to teach them all things whatsoever He had commanded them ;” and of the things which Christ had commanded, the Eucharist may justly be esteemed the principal. It can scarce be conceived but that, when the Apostles had settled Divine worship in any city, many would frequent those religious assemblies and be well affected to Christianity, long before they wholly resigned up themselves and their families to Christ and His Gospel, by requesting to be baptized ; and while they were in this state, they might well be supposed to learn all that I have just now mentioned as the First Constitutions,

Matt.
xxviii. 19,
20.

before they had actually been baptized and received the Eucharist: and while they were in this state, they might probably be called Catechumens^t, and there is some reason to believe that they actually were distinguished by this name; whereas it was time enough to know the Second sort, when they had occasion to make use of them, I mean, when they came to receive the Eucharist. And I see no reason to believe, that the Apostles did ever administer the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood in the presence of those who had no right to join with them in that holy ordinance, or that they taught them the nature of it. But if any are of opinion that the Apostles were not the authors of the difference between the faithful and catechumens, but spoke freely of the Eucharist to all their hearers and administered it before all that were willing to be present, then this will be a sufficient reason why there should be no distinction between the First and Second Constitutions in the Holy Scripture, or in the time of Ignatius. But no man of learning can question but that, in the age of Irenæus, the faithful and the catechumens were two bodies of men, and the several Constitutions relating to these two several bodies might therefore justly be distinguished, as they are in this fragment; and that, therefore, by those who have attained to a certain knowledge of the Second Constitutions of the Apostles, we are to understand the Faithful or Communicants.

Mons. Pfaffius^u is willing to have it thought, that by the Second Constitutions we are to understand such instructions relating to the Eucharist, as St. Paul had not yet given to the Corinthians, when he wrote his first Epistle to them, but

¹Cor. xi. 34. which he promised to give when he came next among them.

But it is evident, that the author of this fragment had another opinion of these Constitutions, and believed that they contained, not the prudential advice of one or more of the Apostles, but the institutions of Christ Himself, as his words do fully prove; for speaking of the communicants, as hath been observed, he says, "they are sensible, that our Lord hath instituted a new Oblation in the New Testament;" and

^t Apollos is called Κατηχούμενος, Acts xviii. 25. Theophilus, Luke i. 4. It is certain that the former was not a baptized Christian. See chap. xix.

2—6.

^u See his notes on this fragment, p. 28, 29.

that therefore the Apostle had taught them this new Oblation, when in the foregoing part of this chapter he delivered to them that which he had received of the Lord concerning the Holy Eucharist. It is true, that the new Oblation will and does remain invisible to them, who read the writings of St. Paul and other Apostles and holy penmen without great application and attention; therefore the author of this fragment, whoever he was, expresses himself with a most judicious exactness, when he says, “They who have attained to a perfect” or certain “knowledge of the Second Constitutions,” &c. For the Greek word implies, not a slight and common knowledge, but a clear^x and distinct view of every particular from one end to the other. And in the Introduction to this volume, I hope to make it appear, that they who have such an insight into the writings of the New Testament, and particularly into the history of the Institution of this Sacrament, cannot be ignorant that our Lord hath instituted a new Oblation.

This gentleman’s modesty does very well become him, when in the first page of his Discourse concerning Prejudices he supposes, that he has shewed himself not wholly free from them in his foregoing treatises concerning the Oblation and Consecration of the Eucharist. The root of his most observable prejudices is that absurd opinion of the Lutherans, which we Englishmen call Consubstantiation; but which Mons. Pfaffius and his brethren choose to express by ‘the union of Christ’s glorified Body and Blood with the Bread and Wine in the Eucharist^y;’ and the ubiquity of that Body, which he expressly declares to be the general opinion of the Lutheran Divines^z. Therefore he falls foul on Irenæus^a for asserting that our bodies are nourished with the Sacramental Body of Christ; and, indeed, he seems to treat the living Arians and Deists with much greater smoothness and complaisance than the Fathers, who are dead and cannot speak for themselves. He labours to prove, that the union of the Heavenly Thing with the earthly^b, mentioned by Irenæus, is

^x Παρηκολούθηκότες. See Grotius and other critics on Luke i. 4; 1 Tim. iv. 6; 2 Tim. iii. 10.

^y See Pfaffius de Consecratione, p. 460.

^z Ibid., pp. 466, 467.

^a p. 74.

^b pp. 75, 95, 463, 464. About the time that he was penning these last pages, as I have reason to believe by

the supposed union of Christ's Body with the Bread in the Holy Sacrament; and yet every where extols the Prayer of the primitive Church for the descent of the Holy Spirit on the symbols of the Eucharist^c, so often mentioned by the ancients, and expressly spoken of in the fragment above cited. Nay, he would draw St. Ignatius^d into this sentiment, because he asserts but One Flesh of Christ, but One Cup in the Unity of His Blood. Whereas, according to the Lutheran notion, there are two Bodies or *Fleshes* (if I may use such a word) of Christ in the Sacrament, I mean, the Sacramental Flesh or consecrated Bread, and the Real or Personal Flesh. It is impossible to give a greater instance of prejudice than this, that he would make Justin Martyr^e assert the union of the Body of Christ with the Bread, when Justin, expressly contrary to the Lutheran notion, says, "the Food" or Bread "is the Body;" whereas Mons. Pfaffius and his brethren make them two distinct things: and he would make Irenaeus^f speak his opinion, though his own fragment, as above cited, says that they prayed "the Bread might be made Christ's Body."

But the most fatal mistake which this grand prejudice, which for brevity's sake I call Consubstantiation, draws along with it, in relation to the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, is this; that an Oblation^g of Bread and Wine cannot be the offering of the Body and Blood of Christ. I wish he had thought fit to consider the great number of proofs by which I have made it appear that the ancients believed the consecrated^h

an original letter of his, which I have seen, he received my First Part of the Unbloody Sacrifice, when about one half of his book was printed off. To shew his dislike of my book and the doctrine it asserts, he blames me in the margin of the page last mentioned for turning ἔγερσιν Πνεύματος, 'the raising' or reviving 'power of the spirit.' He translates my words thus, *resurgentem potentiam*, and professes he does not understand them; and, indeed, it is evident he does not understand English, (which is very pardonable in a foreigner); if he had, he would have turned 'raising power,' *resurgere facientem potentiam*. But see how this learned gentleman mends the matter; in p. 101, he translates ἔγερσις πνεύματος, *conjunctionem animæ*, 'the con-

junction of the soul,' very unaccountably! [Quod licet expressis Irenæi verbis alibi positis contrarium sit, ego met tamen arbitror per σάρκας καὶ πνεύματος ἔγερσιν intelligi ab eo carnis et spiritus conjunctionem in resurrectione mortuorum.] (See Part i. p. [281].) Pfaffius blames me for not believing the Real Presence; our English writers accuse me for asserting it. Thus Truth is often crushed between two extremes. But Mons. Pfaffius seems to favour my explication of Irenæus, in his Addenda.

^c p. 96, and his treatise *De Consecratione*.

^d p. 265.

^e pp. 370, 373.

^f Ibid.

^g p. 333. et passim.

^h See Part i. p. [229,] &c.

Bread and Wine to be the only Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist. He is mistaken to think they were offered up, while they were wholly unconsecrated. Both the learned Gerhardⁱ and himself assert, that the Divine consecration is performed, in some measure at least, by means of the words of Institution; and it is certain the words of Institution were always rehearsed by the Priest in all the ancient Liturgies, before the commemorative Oblation was solemnly made. And the fragment expressly says, “that the Oblation was made in remembrance of our Lord.” He would persuade his reader that there was no mention^k of offering Christ’s Body before the fourth century, though he himself had produced Cyprian affirming it, but three or four pages before.

Though he allows that the Apostles instituted the Oblation of Bread and Wine; yet he will scarce acknowledge that they did this in all Churches; particularly he excepts Antioch^l, for reasons too trivial to bear a repetition. Sometimes he will have the Oblation to have been first brought into the Church by Apostolical men^m, and only as an indifferent riteⁿ; but he can by no means believe that our Saviour was the Author of it, when He gives direction^o concerning “bringing a gift to the Altar;” for he says, “our Saviour was then speaking to the people as well as to His own disciples, and the Jewish people could not have rightly understood our Saviour, if He then spake of offering Bread and Wine for the Eucharist. As if this great man had forgotten that our Saviour did commonly so speak to the Jews, that they did not take His meaning; but he will not allow, that without necessity for so doing we are to understand our Saviour saying things that were of no use for the present; yet we are sure that He gave advice relating to persecution ^{Matt. v. 20} in this very sermon and chapter, and they had occasion to practise the one as soon as the other. But he would have Irenæus^p and the African Fathers contradict each other; because Irenæus says our Saviour commanded us to offer first-fruits,

ⁱ Mons. Pfaff, 485, 496.

^l p. 262.

^k p. 325. [Si enim constet, non ex-stare ullum de *repetita Corporis Christi* Oblatione testimonium in iis scriptis, quæ seculo quarto antiquiora sunt, &c.] p. 321.

^m pp. 182, &c.

ⁿ p. 53.

^o pp. 58, 185.

^p pp. 47, 48.

but the African Fathers forbid it. Sure, this learned man might easily have perceived that Irenæus speaks of the first-fruits or best of their bread and wine, which the African Fathers too in that very Canon expressly declare ought to be offered on the Altar; but the first-fruits, which the African Fathers forbid to be offered on the Altar, were the choicest of other products of the earth.

He has some prejudices, in common with our English writers, against the Sacrifice; as, that^q bread and wine, and things which have no blood to be poured out, cannot be a true Sacrifice; and that there^r can be no sacrifice where none of the ancient common rites of Sacrifice are used. He denies that prayer^s and the elevation of the symbols, which he affirms to have prevailed in the ancient times, are sufficient to make an oblation. He affirms that all proper sacrifices are abolished, but is wiser than to attempt to prove it. And it is evident, he means only bloody sacrifices; for he allows of no other. Because the ancients^t speak of an Altar in heaven, therefore he supposes that they could not believe that there was a true Altar in the Church. By the same argument he might have proved that the Jews could not believe their temple or tabernacle at Jerusalem to be a true

Wisdom ix. one; for they always conceived that there was a temple or 8; Exod. xxv. 40. tabernacle in heaven, of which the other was only a resemblance. Another argument, by which he would prove that Christians^u have no Altar, is, because they are forbidden to serve the tabernacle; for which he cites Heb. xiii. So let the reader discover the proof, for I cannot. Again, in the same place, we are to “go without the camp,” where there is no altar. And were not the Jews, too, to go without the camp to burn their red heifer and some other sacrifices? Had they, therefore, neither sacrifice nor altar?

One great and fundamental mistake of this and many other writers on the same subject, both at home and abroad, is, a conceit that our Saviour blessed the Bread, only by saying^x, “Blessed be Thou, O Lord our God and King, Who bringest forth Bread out of the earth;” and the Cup,

^q pp. 114, 126, 192, 284, 314.

^r p. 345.

^s pp. 345, 296, &c.

^t pp. 293, 339.

^u p. 190.

^x pp. 170—172.

by saying, “Blessed be Thou, &c., Who createst the fruit of the vine.” The only grounds for this opinion are, that the Jewish Rabbies tell us, that their forefathers did by these words bless the bread and wine at their entertainments. The Christians of the Primitive Church by their constant practice have informed us, that they believed our Saviour to have blessed the Bread and Wine, not only by praising God for them, but by appointing them to represent His Body and Blood; by offering them to God as pledges of His Body and Blood, and by praying that God would enrich them with the Holy Spirit and make them His Body and Blood in life and power to the receivers. That the Jews of old did use the words just now cited from Mons. Pfaffius in blessing the Bread and Cup is indeed highly probable; but the Jews themselves will not dare to say, that Christ Jesus did no more. This is only an invention of some modern Christians, who study to make the Eucharist no more than a Jewish supper. Clemens Alexandrinus says, that “Melchisedec distributed bread and wine, as consecrated food, for a type of the Eucharist.” From hence this gentleman concludes^z, that Melchisedec did not offer them to God, because he calls them ‘food:’ but he ought to have observed, that he gives them the title of ‘consecrated food;’ and how should he consecrate them as a priest, but by offering them to God?

He will not allow Dr. Hickes^y that ‘to make prayers and oblations’ signifies the offering of them; therefore he must run into the absurdity of saying, that when the Apostle bids Timothy ‘make prayers,’ he only means, that he should draw forms of prayer, not use them; and that, when Clement of Rome directs the Corinthians to ‘make oblations^b,’ he only directed them to knead the bread, and not to present it at the Altar; and that when St. Paul speaks of “Moses doing Heb. xi. 28. the Passover,” he meant, that Moses only killed the lamb without offering it. However, he is positive, that ‘to make oblations^c’ only signifies offering them as laymen, according to Clement. This is far from being certain, because in the next line Clement says, “the High-priest has peculiar Liturgies

^y e. p. 7. Ap.

^z p. 278.

ⁿ pp. 186, &c.

^b [b. p. 1. Ap.]

^c p. 187.

assigned to him.’’ However, he himself owns^d that Eusebius expresses Novatian’s ‘making the Oblation’ as a Bishop. He bluntly asserts that we cannot translate the words used by our Saviour at the first Institution, ‘Offer this Cup, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me^e.’ I have elsewhere effectually proved that these words are not in strictness capable of any other signification; for ‘this’ infallibly relates to the Cup; and how can we in the Sacrament ‘do,’ or ‘make’ the Cup, but by offering it? He favours our English writers against the Sacrifice, by saying, that whereas^f our Saviour speaks of the present time, ‘This *is* My Body *given* for you;’ He is to be understood, as if He had said ‘which *shall be given*;’ and that ‘to offerg,’ in the Constitution Liturgy, signifies ‘to pray.’ He mentions Christ’s sanctifying Himself^h, as a proof of the Oblation in the Eucharist; but gives it this short answer, ‘here is nothing said of Sacrifice.’ He deniesⁱ that Christ speaks of the Eucharist in John vi. because He had not yet instituted it. He might as well deny that Christ spake of His death and of Judas’s betraying Him, because neither His death nor Judas’s treachery were yet accomplished.

This learned gentleman seems very fond of a late notion, viz., that^j the Body of Christ is not in the Sacrament, save during the time that It is used, or while the distribution is performed; and for this reason he found it convenient to deny that the reservation of the Eucharist was practised in all Churches; but he has brought no manner of proof for it. He only says^k, some Councils and Fathers forbade any of the Eucharist to be reserved; but for this we have only his bare word.

But what is most intolerable in this Divine is, that he tells his reader, the consecration^l of the Eucharist in the time of Justin Martyr was performed by an extempore prayer. He indeed had just before said that the Church in this age did not retain the Apostolical simplicity; and if he had mentioned

^d p. 275.

^e 1 Cor. xi. 25. See Prop. Oblation, p. 33. Unbloody Sacrifice, [Part i. p. 170.]

^f p. 233.

^g p. 290.

^h p. 228.

ⁱ p. 73.

^j pp. 443, &c.

^k p. 445.

^l p. 371.

this extempore prayer as an instance of this corruption, his error had been more pardonable. But how does he prove that this sort of prayer was used in Justin's time? Why, because the Bishop is described by him as sending up prayers "with all his might." He offers no proof but this, unless you will take that for a proof which there immediately follows, which is a citation taken out of a form of prayer in the Constitutions; and sure this gentleman did not intend to confute the use of forms of prayer by words taken out of one of the primitive forms. Therefore all his evidence against set stated forms must at last be reduced to these words of Justin. And I will take leave to observe, that the 'Impartial Hand' in a book lately reprinted, under the title of 'An Enquiry into the Constitution, &c. of the Primitive Church,' uses^m the same argument for the same purpose; and takes great pains to prove, that this phrase used by Justin always implies personal abilities; and this would easily have been granted him by all. But sure a grave, affectionate, harmonious, clear, audible pronunciation is a personal ability, as well as invention or expression. But Justin himself has effectually answered this seeming argument against forms of prayer; for in this very Apology, from which Mons. Pfaffius and the 'Impartial Hand' took this proof, speaking of Christian congregations in general, he says, "We prayⁿ [to God] and praise [Him] with all our might," &c. I hope it will not be said, that the whole body of the Christian people could use their abilities of expression or invention in their public devotions. And by these last words of Justin it is very evident, that he meant nothing by this phrase but the most affectionate zeal and the most devout desires, expressed by their decent gestures, and the earnestness of their voice in making the responses.

But I am so far from believing that every pastor was by the Apostle left to his own discretion in wording the prayers and praises that were used in the Eucharist and upon all solemn occasions, that I am fully persuaded that the Apostles left proper forms for all offices of religion with the Bishops of the Churches which they founded. I have not room here to

^m Part ii. pp. 34, &c.

ⁿ οῖς προσφερόμεθα πᾶσιν, ὅση δύναμις,
αἰνοῦντες.

1742.] λόγῳ εὐχῆς καὶ εὐχαριστίας ἐφ'

speak at large of this matter, but hope to have an opportunity of doing so hereafter. In the mean time, I shall only observe

^{2 Tim. i. 13.} that it is highly probable, that “the form of sound words, the
^{14; ii. 2;} good thing committed to Timothy’s trust, and which he had
^{iii. 14.} heard of the Apostle, and was to commit to faithful men,

who were able to teach others also,” was a Liturgy; and this

^{2 Tim. i. 14.} Liturgy he was to “keep by the Holy Ghost;” for the Spirit of God did not only open the understanding and judgment, but did likewise strengthen and refresh the memories of men in the age of miracles. And, I think, Basil the Great^o does sufficiently shew, that the ancient Bishops and Priests did not read their forms of prayer, but pronounced them ‘by heart,’ as we commonly speak. It particularly deserves our observation, that after St. Paul had commended Timothy for offering “the good Oblation^p,” by which he means the Eu-

^{1 Tim. vi. 14.} charist, he presently adds, “Keep this commandment without spot, unrebutable;” he means, that he should not deface the forms, which he had given him: and he means the same thing,

^{1 Tim. vi. 20.} when soon after he bids him, “Keep that which was committed to his charge, avoiding profane and vain babblings,” or ‘new-coined harangues^q,’ as many of the ancients read and understood it.

Another writer here in England has undertaken to answer my First Part; it is the same man whom I have convicted of several forgeries^r and false reasonings before, and who therefore has no right to the common civilities due to a fair adversary. In his last book, which he calls ‘The Christian Eucharist no proper Sacrifice^s,’ he charges me with asserting “a real change of the nature or natural qualities of bread and wine;” and that “the symbols are united to the natural

^o De Spirit. Sancto, c. 27. Τὰ τῆς ἐπικλήσεως ρήματα ἐπὶ τῇ ἀναδεῖξι τοῦ ἄρτου τῆς εὐχαριστίας καὶ τοῦ ποτηρίου τῆς εὐλογίας τίς τῶν ἀγίων ἐγγράφους ἡμῖν καταλέοιπεν; οὐ γάρ δὴ τούτοις ἀρκούμεθα, ὅν δὲ Ἀπόστολος ή τὸ εὐαγγέλιον ἐπεμνήσθη, ἀλλὰ καὶ προλέγουμεν καὶ ἐπιλέγουμεν ἔτερα—ἐκ τῆς ἀγράφου διδασκαλίας παραλαβόντες.—[tom. iii. p. 55. Ed. Paris. 1730.]

^p 1 Tim. vi. 12, 13. See First Part of Unbloody Sacrifice, [p. 223.]

^q Vid. Mill in loc. καινοφωνίας.

^r See Ep. Pref. to Unbloody Sacrifice, [Pt. i. p. 10,] and Reflections on

the Defence of the Bp. of Oxford’s Charge. I had been informed that the Defence of the Doctrine and Practice, &c., on which I spend two or three pages in my Pref. Ep., was a person of some eminence in the Church; but I am since assured, that these two pamphlets, and a third called The Christian Eucharist no proper Sacrifice, did all come from the same hand, that is, Dr. [Turner] of [Greenwich], in the diocese of [Rochester].

^s Christian Eucharist no proper Sacrifice, pp. 7, 8.

Person or Body of our Saviour." He cites no words of mine, nor refers to any page of my book; and I am very sure that I never did in my most secret thoughts entertain any such opinion, much less declare for it in my writings. We are not to wonder, if Deists or Free-thinkers bring every day false accusations against clergymen, when they of the same order are guilty of this unchristian practice: but I insist upon it by the authority of all the venerable judges in Westminster-Hall, that the criminal words ought to be specified in the indictment; and till he can produce any such words of mine, I charge upon him this accusation concerning "the real change of the nature of the Bread," as an open, groundless forgery and slander; nor could I have so long been patient under it, but that I am assured his writings meet with very few readers. I have indeed had much the same imputation laid on me by Mr. Lewis in a scurrilous pamphlet, which he wrote against me "by the encouragement of his superiors," as he himself has declared; contrary to all the laws of friendship, of which yet he made the highest professions, at the same time that he published his pamphlet. There is nothing in it relating to the controversy itself that deserves my resentment, excepting that vile imputation concerning the change of the natural qualities in the Sacramental elements. An honest friend of mine had long ere this given him a just reproof from the press, if it had not been thought that such pamphlets as Mr. L—s's can do hurt to no cause but that which they defend.

I am further made to say by Dr. T., that^t "oblation constitutes a sacrifice." Whereas by my^u definition of a sacrifice I make five particulars in some measure necessary to constitute a sacrifice. I say indeed, that no rite is necessary to Sacrifice but the act or acts of oblation. And has he proved any other rite to be necessary? No; nor so much as attempted it. He would prove, that^x "first-fruits were offered, yet were not sacrifices;" and did I ever say, that whatever was offered was a sacrifice? but why were they not sacrifices? Why, in short, because no part of them was burnt. Well, then, suppose there had some part of them been laid on the altar to be

^t Christ. Euch. no proper Sacrifice,
p. 19.

^u Unbloody Sacr., Part i. p. [71].
^x pp. 20, 21.

burnt, would not this have made them sacrifices? and then would not this laying them on the altar have been a rite or action, by which the oblation was performed? He says further, "All Divines till of late have looked on first-fruits as oblations, not sacrifices." This is strange, when^y [the] LXX. as ancient Divines as he can name, excepting the penmen of the Old Testament, do unanimously call them "a sacrifice;" I mean the Greek Translators. The truth is, they were offered by being waved in the priest's hands; they could not be burnt, because they were leavened; and no leaven was to come on God's altar.

This Doctor, for a cast of his wit, is pleased to say that Dr. Hickes^z and Mr. J——n "begin with the Fathers of the Church, and work their way backwards till they come at Scripture." Well, then, suppose we had taken Dr. T—'s method, begun at Scripture and thence proceeded to Fathers, had this been going *forward*? Certainly not, except in Dr. T—'s judgment the Fathers are, in some sense, before the Scriptures. He certainly works backward, who from greater proof descends to less, from earlier to later, from Divine to human; yet this it seems, in the Doctor's judgment, is going forward. He spends one third of his book to prove, that by the third Apostolical Canon new ears of corn were permitted to be offered together with the Bread and Wine in the Eucharist. And to this purpose he first alleges the authority of Bishop Beveridge^a; and there is thus much of truth in what the Doctor says, that the false pointings in the text of Bishop Beveridge's Edition might lead the Doctor into this mistaken sense of the words; but when he says that "Bishop Beveridge did so understand" this Canon, he is himself guilty of an error, if not something worse. It is certain^b, the Bishop declares positively against

^y Lev. xxiii. 16, 17. προσοίσετε θυσίαν νέαν τῷ Κυρίῳ. Ἀπὸ τῆς κατοικίας ὑμῶν προσοίσετε ἄρτους ἐπίθεμα, δύο ἄρτους—πρωτογεννημάτων τῷ Κυρίῳ.

^z p. 230.

^a pp. 34, 38.

^b [Vid. Guil. Beveregii Annotations, p. 15. *ad calcem* tom. ii. Pandect. Canonum, Ed. Oxon. 1672.] Hoc itaque tertio Canone cautum est, ne quis aliud quippam in Sacrificio incruento sive Cœna Dominicæ ad Altare offerat,

præter Panem et Vinum ab Ipso Christo instituta, uti Balsamon et Zonaras Canonem hunc interpretantur. And on the words, πλὴν νέων χθρών, he says further, Interpretæ hic consentiunt, quod hoc Canone præcipitur, ut novæ spicæ tempore opportuno, non ut sacrificia Deo, sed ut primitiæ sacerdoti offerantur; and for this cites the Scholiast to Harmenopulus, and the Arabic collection of Canons, part of which the Dr. translates, p. 38.

the Doctor in his notes on this Canon Apostolical, as the reader will see by the Bishop's own words in the margin; therefore it is certain the text is pointed contrary to the Bishop's own judgment. The Doctor in the same place says, that Balsamon, Zonaras, and Aristenus, give the same interpretation which he had just before fathered on Bishop Beveridge. Now the learned reader, by looking into the margin^c, may convince himself, that the two former are directly against this Doctor's sense of the words in their notes on this very Canon, and the third not for it; nay, in his explaining the next Canon he is as directly against the Doctor, as I can be. But, says Dr. T—r, "the Arabic Paraphrase so explains it, as Bishop Beveridge shews." Here again he misrepresents both his authors, as appears by the words of both^d transcribed in the margin. So here we have five authors cited in one paragraph, without any conscience or regard to truth. Sure, no reader can expect that I should undertake the drudgery of exposing all the wilful or unwilful blunders of so faithless a writer. He, who desires further satisfaction in the meaning of this Canon, is desired to compare it with the 37th Canon of the African Code and the 28th Canon of the Synod in Trullo^e; for I suppose the reader will rather take the judgment of the five learned interpreters above mentioned, and of these two great Synods, than of Dr. T—r.

^c Balsam, in Can. Apost. 3. ἀκούων δὲ τοῦ κανόνος λέγοντος, [πλὴν νέων χίδρων,] μὴ νομίσης συγκεχωρέσθαι τὴν διὰ τούτων θυσίαν καὶ τοῦτο γάρ ἀπτγρέρεται ἀλλὰ λέγε προσφέρεσθαι ταῦτα τῷ ιερεῖ ὡς ἀπαρχᾶς, κ. τ. λ. Bev. Pandect, tom. i. p. 2. Zonaras, *ibid.* 'Ο Κύριος παραδίδοντος τοῖς μαθηταῖς Αὐτοῦ τὴν ἐπὶ τῇ ἀναμάκτῳ θυσίᾳ τελετήν, ἔρωτα καὶ οἰνῷ ταῦτην τελεῖν παραδέδωκε. διὸ καὶ οἱ Ἀπόστολοι ἔτερόν τι πρὸς θυσίαν προσάγεσθαι ἀπηγόρευσαν.—σταφύλια δε—προσάγεσθαι συνεχώρησαν πλὴν οὐχ ὡς θυσίας ταῦτα προσφέρεσθαι, ἀλλ' ὡς ἀπαρχᾶς, κ. τ. λ. Aristen. in Can. Ap. 3. *ibid.*—'Απαρχᾶς δὲ τῶν νέων καρπῶν, ἤτοι δοσπρίων, καὶ σταφυλῆς, προσφέρειν κατὰ τὸν τῆς γεωργίας καιρὸν, εἰς εὐχαριστίαν τοῦ δόντος Θεοῦ, ἐπιτέτρωπται.

Idem, in Can. Ap. 4. p. 3. 'Η γὰρ σταφυλὴ ἐν τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ προσαχθήσεται, κατ' ἔξαρτον τῶν ἄλλων ὀπωρῶν,

ώς καὶ τοῦ ἐξ αὐτῆς οἴνου, εἰς τελεσιουργίαν παραλαμβανομένου τῆς ἀναμάκτου θυσίας.

^d Immediately after the word interpretantur in note [b] above, Bishop Beveridge goes on in these words, Quibus suffragatur Josephus Ægyptius in Arabicæ Canonum collectione, qua hæc prima pars hujus Canonis sic explicatur; "Quicunque Episcopus vel Presbyter legem Domini nostri Jesu Christi de oblatione transgressus fuerit, et super Altare obtulerit mel aut lac, vel etiam puri puti vini loco adduxerit potum inebriantem, vel quippiam ex vino inusitato, igne aut aliter parato, aut avem aliquam, aut animal, aut aliam hostiam præter Oblationem, quam Dominus Jesus præcepit ex pane similagineo puro novoque, et vino ex uvis vite ortis presso, Sacerdotio ejiciatur.

^e [Bev. Synodic., tom. i. p. 188.]

POSTSCRIPT.

I HAVE received from my bookseller a printed book, entitled “A letter to Dr. Brett,” subscribed “Ezekiel Standfast.” Dr. Wise is, I find, the supposed author of it; and, indeed, his style and genius shine forth in every page of it, and a great part of the book is levelled at me by name. He gives over arguing, and betakes himself to downright drolling and slander, the last refuge of a baffled cause. He charges me^f with “entering as far into Transubstantiation as even Father Massuet^g, the late defender of it. In answer to which, I only desire my reader to consult the First Part of this work, to which the Doctor refers; and there he will find, that I do not go so far as the Lutherans in this point^h, whom yet Dr. Wise defends as to this article. It is very strange that the learned Pfaffiusⁱ, who is himself a Lutheran, should impute it to me as an error that is common to me and the other writers of the Church of England, that we do not believe the Real Presence; and yet [that] Dr. Wise should charge it on me as a crime, that I “have entered into Transubstantiation.” Perhaps he means that I have entered into it by way of opposition, as far as Massuet entered into it by way of defence and submission. In no other sense can the words of this Doctor be true. He brings against me three personal accusations, of which I think myself concerned to give an account to my reader.

I. That which most of all affects me is the charge of ingratitude to my Most Reverend patron, the late Archbishop of Canterbury^k. And to prove thisⁱ, he taxes me with saying, that he is “unsound in the faith,” and a great deal more to the same purpose. I desire the reader to use his own eyes and judgment in perusing those words of mine there referred to; and I am certain I need no other defence. I do further affirm that I never was guilty of any indecent behaviour toward him; I have, indeed, twice or thrice voted for such

^f p. 116.

^g [Dom René Massuet, the Benedictine annotator on St. Irenæus.]

^h p. 128.

^j Pfaff, 464.

^k [Dr. Thomas Tenison.]

^l p. 70.

knights of the shire as it was said he did not approve of. Sure, this can be no crime in the eyes of equal judges. If patrons have a right to dispose of the votes of those clergymen whom they have preferred, then their tenure is more vile than that of the meanest layman. Dr. Wise represents his Grace's favours toward me in such a manner as to prove himself perfectly ignorant in this point; but I shall say nothing to extenuate them, but only observe to him that I was a freeholder in the county before I was admitted to holy orders, and that when his Lordship was advanced to the See of Canterbury, he found me beneficed in this Diocese to the value of £120 per annum.

II. He says I was once "a violent Whig^m." I ever renounced the name of a Whig. I was indeed too much a Williamite, which might give too just occasion to some to brand me with that title of reproach.

III. Dr. Wise slily insinuates, that it is my practice to elevate the Bread and Wineⁿ. And it is true that I did sometimes, about four or five years ago, in the act of consecration lift up the Bread and Wine higher than usual, that the people might see the Bread broken and the Cup taken into my hand, as the Rubric directs, and for no other reason; some people, who seemed desirous to see the holy action, sitting at a great distance from the Lord's Table in this very large church. But I never elevated the elements after consecration; nay, I believe it horrible superstition in those that do it, if any such there be; and I do further solemnly declare it to be my sentiment, that to elevate and adore the Sacrament, according to the practice of the Church of Rome, is downright idolatry.

IV. This Doctor tells his reader that^o I rode about "to try my interest with the clergy," in order to procure their voices at the last election of Clerks for Convocation. Now the contrary to this is notoriously true; I mean, that I declared to all that offered me their votes that I resolved not to be a competitor. And I am very certain that I never asked a

^m p. 73.

ⁿ p. 78. [The same charge was brought forward against the learned Confessor, Dr. Matthew Wrenn, Bishop of Ely, among the Articles of accusa-

tion preferred by the Long Parliament; see in Wrenn's Parentalia, Life of Matthew Bishop of Ely, p. 104.]

^o p. 134.

vote of any single clergyman for myself, after the deplorable death of Queen Anne, by which the former Convocation was dissolved.

The sum of all that can be learned from the English books written against the defenders of the Sacrifice in the Eucharist is this, that they must be run down with impudent fictions, to supply the want of argument.

Cranbrook, June 14, 1716.



A DISCOURSE

ON THE

UNBLOODY SACRIFICE, AND ALTAR.

PART II.

THE INTRODUCTION,

SHEWING THAT CHRIST IN THE EUCHARIST OFFERED OR SACRIFICED HIMSELF, UNDER THE SYMBOLS OF BREAD AND WINE.

THERE are few doctrines more plainly taught us in Scripture than this, that Christ offered Himself a Sacrifice for our sins. Christ was a real Sacrifice.
St. Paul expresses this truth in great variety of words. He tells us, that Christ "gave Himself for us;" that "He became a sin-offering for us^a ;" that "He offered Himself without spot to God ;" that "He appeared to put away sin by the Sacrifice of Himself;" that "He gave," or offered "Himself to God for us an offering and a sacrifice to God of a sweet-smelling savour." The phrase last mentioned, that is, a sweet-smelling savour, peculiarly belongs to the most proper sacrifices that were ever offered, before Christ came into the world. Not only the burnt-offerings of Noah, and those that were enjoined by the Law of Moses, but likewise the sacrifices for sin, the meat-offerings, and the peace-offerings, have this title given to them; by which is meant, that such sacrifices, duly offered, were as acceptable to God, as a sweet perfume is to men. Therefore, when the Apostle calls the Sacrifice of Christ "a sweet savour to God," his meaning is, not only that it was a true and proper sacrifice, but that it was esteemed and received as such by God the Father.

^a 2 Cor. v. 21. That ἄμαρτία here signifies 'a sin-offering' will appear to any man by reading Dr. Whitby on the place.

A tradition,
that He was
offered only
on the
Cross.

But the question is, when Christ did as a Priest offer His Body and Blood to God. Now there is a common tradition, that He did it at no other time nor place here on earth, but on the Cross only. I call this a tradition, because it is an opinion that is not delivered to us in Scripture, nor capable of being proved from thence. And it is one of the worst sort of traditions, because it is not affirmed by any ancient writer of the Church, but invented in these last ages; nay, I may dare to affirm that it is not consistent either with the account which the Scripture contains of this matter, or with the doctrine of the Primitive Church. And here I must observe to my reader, that I have throughout this work proposed it to myself as the most safe and certain rule for the direction of our judgment and practice, to take Scripture and other ancient books, in such a sense as may make them perfectly agree with each other. And it will appear to any learned reader, that this sense is always the most easy and natural, both in relation to the Scriptures, and those other ancient books which I have frequently quoted. And in this lies the advantage of that doctrine of the Eucharist for which I plead, that, upon this bottom, Jesus Christ, the Apostles, and primitive Fathers, do say the same thing, and express it for the most part in plain and clear words; but they who oppose this doctrine are forced to set the ancient Fathers at variance with our Saviour and the penmen of the New Testament; and, to that end, to put oftentimes a harsh and unnatural sense upon what is said either in the Scripture or in other ancient writings upon this subject.

Now in order to shew that Christ did, as a Priest, offer His Body and Blood to God when He instituted this Sacrament, I desire that the following particulars may be duly weighed.

Bloody sa-
crifices al-
ways offer-
ed, while
alive.

Lev. i. 2, 3;
5; iii. 1, 2;
iv. 13—15;
22—24. 27
—29.

I. Bloody sacrifices were usually offered before they were slain or began to be slain. The burnt-offerings, peace-offerings, and common offerings for sin, were directed by the Law of Moses to be offered by the laymen who brought them to the altar, while the beasts were yet alive; and I shall hereafter have occasion to shew, that it was the practice of the Jews to do this with a solemn prayer. And all the sacrifices, offered at the consecration of the priests or on the

day of expiation, were offered by him that performed the priest's office before they were slain. I do not mean that the oblation was finished, before the beast was killed and the blood sprinkled and other rites performed ; but that, in these cases, the sacrifice was actually presented to God, and His acceptance of the sacrifice humbly requested by the priest, before the blood of the beast was shed or any other rite made use of. And this may be proved, beyond all doubt, from the history of Aaron's consecration, and the description of the sacrifices on the day of expiation. In the former, Moses performed the office of a priest by the express command of God Himself. The sacrifice first mentioned in the consecration-service is that of a bullock for sin ; and it is expressly said^b, that "Moses brought," or offered "the sin-offering," then Aaron and his sons laid their hands on it ; after that it was slain ; and in the same chapter we have the same account given us of the ram for the burnt-offering and the other ram of consecration. On the day of expiation Aaron is directed to "offer the bullock for a sin-offering for himself and his house, and make an atonement for himself and his house," and then to kill the bullock ; so that this sacrifice was not only offered while it was yet alive, but the atonement is in some measure attributed to the oblation then made. And he is commanded on the same day "to bring the goat, on which the Lord's lot fell, and to offer him up for a sin-offering," then to offer the scape-goat alive, then the sin-offering before mentioned for himself and his family, and to carry the blood of the bullock within the veil, and after all this to slay the goat which he had before offered for the sins of the people, and then to carry its blood within the veil. From all this it is evident, that the sacrifices offered for the consecrating of the priests, and the expiating both priests and people on the day of atonement, were to be offered, before they were slain, by him that performed the priest's office. Now I suppose all Protestants will allow, that Christ's Sacrifice was intended for the expiation of sin ; and if so, then they cannot think [it] strange, that it was offered before it was

Lev. viii.
18; 22, 23.

Lev. xvi.
11.

Lev. xvi.
10—15.

^b Lev. viii. 14; Ex. xxix. 10. The Hebrew verb used in the latter text is **הִקְרִיב**: and I conceive the Hebrew tongue does not afford any word more

expressly signifying 'to offer,' though our translators turn it 'to bring,' or 'cause to bring.'

slain, and that by the priest himself; for it is clear that this was the method prescribed by Moses of old. It will presently be shewed, that the Body and Blood of Christ were intended as a Sacrifice of consecration as well as expiation, and that therefore the proper time of offering them was before He was actually slain as a Sacrifice. And it will in due time be proved, that the sacrifices of the Gentiles were offered in the same method.

Christ offered Himself before His crucifixion.

John xvii.
20.

2 Chron.
xxix. 31;
Ezek. xlili.
26.

Psalm cx.

2. Christ Himself does assure us, that He did, as a Priest, offer Himself to God before He was crucified, and that He offered Himself as a Sacrifice of consecration. The words of our Saviour to this purpose are part of that most solemn prayer which He addressed to God the Father, before He was gone out of that room in which He instituted the Eucharist, before He was gone over the brook Kedron, or entered into the garden where He underwent that most violent agony. He speaks of His Apostles, for whom He had been praying in the foregoing part of the chapter, and says, "For their sakes I sanctify," or consecrate "Myself, that they also may be sanctified," or consecrated "in the truth." Dr. Outram says^c, "that by Christ's 'consecrating Himself' can be meant nothing but 'His offering Himself' a Sacrifice." Dr. Whitby interprets the words to the same sense^d. It is certain that the words do of necessity import an oblation of Himself. For it is observable, that persons designed and declared before-hand to be priests by a Divine authority, as the sons of Aaron were, are said "to consecrate themselves," when they first enter upon the exercise of their office; and, indeed, the generality of the Levitical priests had no other consecration, especially in the later times. Now our Saviour, having been not only declared but sworn to be a Priest many ages before by God the Father, is here said to consecrate Himself, because He was now offering the Sacrifice by which

^c Primam earum rerum, quibus constitit Sacrificium suum, tum præstabat Dei Filius, cum Se ad mortem imminentem Deo ultro offerebat.—primo enim mortem aditurnus Se propter suos Seipsum ἀγιάζειν dixit; hoc est, ut victimam Deo offerre.—nec aliud ullum hoc in loco vox ἀγιάζειν sensum recipit; quo factum est, ut verba illa

ἀγιάζω ἐμαντὸν ita explicet S. Chrysostomus, προσφέρω σοι θυσίαν.—unde intelligitur Dominum nostrum tum, cum preces hasce ederet, Deo Se ut victimam obtulisse. De Sacrificiis, p. 286. lib. ii. c. 3. edit. Amst.

^d See Part i. of the Unbloody Sacrifice, p. [184.]

He entered on His Priestly function ; and He at the same time consecrated or began to consecrate His Apostles to the Priestly office, by giving them a commission "to do," or offer "this, in remembrance of Him." And He finished this consecration, when after His resurrection, "He breathed on them, and said, 'Receive ye the Holy Ghost: whose sins ye do remit, they are remitted.'" And this consecration was both what our Saviour and His Apostles were clearly capable of, and which does therefore best agree with this text; in which Christ declares, in the first place, that He consecrated or sanctified Himself, and gives the reason why He did so, namely, that they also might be consecrated; for they had never been personally declared by God or Christ Jesus to be the ministers of this Sacrifice and Sacrament, before the institution of it; therefore, I take this to be the meaning of our Saviour; "I now consecrate Myself to the Priestly office, by offering My Body and Blood as a Sacrifice, that My Apostles also may, by this means, be consecrated to officiate as Priests in the mysteries of the Gospel." For, by "the truth" here, we are to understand the doctrine and Sacraments of the Gospel, as distinguished from those of the Law; and^e this is the usual signification of the word 'truth' in St. John's Gospel.

3. If we enquire into the precise moment of time when our Saviour pronounced these words, "I sanctify," or consecrate "Myself," we may positively determine, that it was after He had begun, and before He had perfectly finished, the institution of the Eucharist; though we cannot certainly determine to what part of that holy action this prayer belongs. St. John himself does wholly omit the history of Christ's breaking, pouring out, and blessing the Bread and Wine. And, indeed, he seldom mentions any particulars, but such as the other three Evangelists had passed over in silence;

Before He
went into
the garden.

^e "The Law was given by Moses, but Truth came by Jesus Christ," John i. 17. "The Truth shall make you free," viii. 32. "I am the Way, and the Truth," that is, the completion of the types of the Law, xiv. 6. "They that worship God must worship Him in spirit and truth," that is, in the manner typified in the Law, clearly

taught in the Gospel, John iv. 24. "Sanctify them (the Apostles) in Thy Truth, Thy word is Truth," that is, Thy Gospel preached by Me is the accomplishment of the Law and Prophets: therefore Christ desires God to consecrate them to be stewards of the Gospel mysteries.

therefore, though he says nothing concerning the Bread and Wine, yet he inserts a prayer used by our blessed Lord on this occasion. It is indeed most probable, that these petitions were put up to God after His having blessed the elements, and upon His distributing them to His Apostles; at least, that the words, now cited, belong to that part of the sacred office. We are assured, that after Christ had spoken

John xviii. these words, or pronounced this prayer, “He went over the 1. brook Kedron, where was a garden,” and where He was soon after apprehended; and that therefore this prayer must have been used at the Eucharist, which was the last action of moment recorded by the other Evangelists, before His going to Mount Olivet, where this garden was. I do not from St. John’s expression certainly conclude, that these words, or this prayer, did so immediately precede His going over the brook, that nothing could be said or done in the meantime; I only infer from what has been said, that, as it is certain our Saviour performed the part of a Priest before He was fastened to the Cross; so there is a very fair probability from this text, that He did it at the time of His instituting the Eucharist.

And upon
His institu-
ting the
Eucharist.

4. And this will amount to more than a probability, if it be considered that Christ, when He administered the Bread to the Apostles, did expressly declare this Bread to be His Body “given,” or offered “for them:” and when He administered the Cup, that this was “His Blood shed for them.” He says, as directly and strongly as words can well express it, that He then gave His Body to God, and shed His Blood as a ransom for the sins of men. Neither Christ nor His Apostles have declared that He did, at any other time or place, as a Priest, offer His Body and Blood to the Father here on earth. It deserves our particular notice, that not only

Luke xxii. St. Luke represents our Saviour as saying, “This is My 19. Body given for you;” but St. Matthew informs us, that our

Matt. xxvi. Saviour said concerning the Cup, “This is My Blood of the 28. New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many.”

Mark xiv. St. Mark also speaks of the time then present, “which is 24. shed for many;” and St. Paul, in relating this sacred institution,

1 Cor. xi. speaks of our Saviour as using these words, “This is 24. My Body, which is broken for you.” Nothing can be more

harsh than to suppose, that we may not rely upon the report of four holy writers, when they agree as to the circumstance of time. All writers do indeed sometimes speak of what is to be done, as now already done; but then the reader is, from the nature or method of the facts by them related, set right as to the certain time; but we cannot, from any of the four Gospels or any other passage in the New Testament, inform ourselves that Christ did at any other certain time here on earth, as a Priest, offer His Body and Blood to God; and therefore, since four of these writers do assure us, that Christ declared His Body to be given, His Blood to be poured out in the Eucharist, we may from thence safely conclude, that He did then offer Himself, while He was alive; especially, since sacrifices of expiation and consecration were of old thus offered by the priest before they were slain. And the fancy, that the Evangelist used the time present for the time to come, has no other foundation but that of the Popish Mass-Book, and the old Latin translation of the Gospels, in which the words run thus: "This is My Body which shall be given, This is My Blood which shall be shed."

5. And by this it appears, that our Saviour consecrated His Apostles to their office by and in the Sacrifice of the Eucharist. At the same time that He entered upon the exercise of His Priestly office by offering His Body and Blood, He committed to them a power of doing or offering the same in remembrance of Him; for He sanctified Himself that He might also sanctify them; and thus St. Paul declares in behalf of himself and his fellow Apostles, "we were sanctified all at once by the offering of the Body of Jesus^f." It is therefore rational to believe that our Saviour, by delivering the symbols of His Body and Blood sacrificed for our sins with His own hands to His Apostles, and charging them to do what He had now done, did intend not only to administer the Sacrament to them, but to give them authority to offer and administer it to others. Aaron and his sons were Lev. viii. by God's direction ordained Mosaical priests by having the blood of the ram of consecration put on several parts of their body, and some pieces of that sacrifice into their hands, and

And then
ordained
His Apo-
stles to be
Priests of
this Sacri-
fice.

^f Heb. x. 10. See part i. p. [202.]

waving them for a wave-offering before the Lord. And the most ancient form of a Bishop's ordination now extant in the whole world consists chiefly of a prayer, with imposition of hands and putting the Bread of the Eucharist into the hands of the person to be ordained, and so performing the Oblation^s.

The Sacri-
fice of
Christ no
Jewish sa-
crifice.

I have alleged the Law of Moses to prove, that it is agreeable to the nature of a sacrifice to be offered before it was slain, and that it comports with a sacrifice of expiation or consecration to be offered by the priest, while it is yet alive: I do not this upon supposition that it is necessary the Sacrifice of Christ should in all respects answer the standard of the Levitical Law. A beast killed according to the directions of Moses's Law in the temple at Jerusalem was certainly a sacrifice, and therefore whatever rites or modes were used on such occasions were consistent with the nature of sacrifices; but it does not therefore follow, that whatever was offered in any other manner was no sacrifice at all; for there were other sacrifices besides those, which were offered by the Law of Moses. We might justly despise that Socinian or Deist, who should undertake to prove that Christ's Body was no sacrifice, because no part of It was burnt or otherwise consumed; nor the Blood of It sprinkled by any priest upon the mercy-seat; or because Christ's was a human body, and therefore not fit to be offered as a sacrifice on the altar at Jerusalem; or because for a priest to offer his own body in sacrifice was a thing never heard of among the Jews, nor probably among the Gentiles. Any rational man would think it a sufficient answer to these cavils, to say, that no Christian ever thought the Sacrifice of Christ to be a Jewish or Levitical sacrifice; that as Christ's Priesthood was distinct from that of Aaron, so was His Sacrifice from those prescribed by the Law of Moses, and from all that had ever been offered before; as every thing that is most excellent in its kind, for that reason, must in some respects differ from all others. The most solemn sacrifices of expiation among the Jews were killed by the high-priest, who offered them. It does not therefore follow, that Christ was not both a Priest and Sacrifice, because He could not kill Himself. And, indeed,

^s a. p. 52. Ap.

under the Law of Moses, a bullock or a goat might be sacrifices, though killed by a layman; the priest's killing of them did not render them sacrifices; for it is certain that the generality of the animals offered to God were slain by the hands of laymen; nay, the priest's killing of them did not render them expiatory sacrifices; for the common sacrifices for sin and trespass were killed by those in whose behalf they were offered, and yet had an atoning virtue by means of the Divine institution. And when the priest did himself slay the sacrifice, yet the slaying and the offering of it were actions wholly distinct. They were offered, as has been shewed, before they were killed, and they were again offered afterward by the sprinkling of their blood; but that they were offered in and by the stroke which killed them, cannot be said with any appearance of truth.

It is evident from what has been said, that our Saviour offered to God His Body and Blood, under the symbols or pledges of Bread and Wine. It may safely be granted, that the Jews had no such sacrifice, in which one bodily thing or substance was offered as the symbol or representation of another. It may justly be allowed to be the peculiar property of the spiritual Sacrifice of Christ, that one thing was visibly offered, another more excellent thing signified and effectually represented by it. This may prove that it is no Jewish sacrifice; but it is most unreasonable from hence to conclude, that it is no sacrifice at all. It may as fairly be argued, that there never was any other temple in the world besides that at Jerusalem, because probably there never was any other built precisely and in all respects according to that model.

As it seems sufficiently evident, that Christ did offer the Sacrifice of His Body and Blood under the figures of Bread and Wine; so if we consider the time and company in which it was done, we shall find them to have been the most proper and agreeable for this most sacred action. As to the time, it was before He was under custody or confinement, while He was, even to the eye of men, entirely at His own disposal. This was a proper season to make the Oblation of Himself most perfectly available to the ends for which it was performed; for, by doing it now, it appeared to be wholly

Lev. iv. 23.
33; iv. 26.
35.

The Jews
had no such
representa-
tive sacri-
fice as the
Eucharist.

The time
and com-
pany in
which
Christ offer-
ed Himself,
most pro-
per.

His own act and deed, flowing from the free motion of His own will. If He had delayed the doing it till He had been fastened to the Cross or seized by the officers and soldiers, it might have been said by His enemies, that He offered Himself to God to wipe off the reproach of that shameful death from which He was not able to deliver Himself, and to set the best gloss He could on His present sufferings, when He found them to be unavoidable; but by doing it while He was yet at perfect liberty, He prevented the misconstruction of the most generous and beneficial action that He ever performed. As to the company in which He did it none could be more agreeable; they were His Apostles, who were beforehand chosen of God to be witnesses of His most glorious actions and stewards of His mysteries. And if it were proper for all other matters of moment to be transacted in their presence, it might justly be thought strange, if He had chosen

Matt. xxvi. 31. to perform the principal action of all in their absence. Christ knew full well that His Apostles would forsake Him, before

John xix. 26. He was crucified; that not one of them, excepting St. John, could be a witness of what He should do or say, while He was hanging on the Cross. And certainly that multitude of bloody Jews, with the band of Roman soldiers, who surrounded our blessed Lord during the whole time of His crucifixion, were the most improper and disagreeable assembly that could have been drawn together from any part of the world, to be witnesses of the most sacred and solemn action that ever was done upon earth, I mean, the Priestly Oblation of the Son of God for the sins of men.

We are to
do what
Christ did
in the Eu-
charist.

And if Christ gave or offered Himself in the Eucharist, I presume I need not labour to prove, that Priests are to do what He then did. We have His express command to "do" or offer "this in remembrance" of Him; and I have abundantly demonstrated elsewhere^h, that this was the constant unanimous judgment of the Primitive Church for the first four hundred years after Christ. We cannot, indeed, offer the Eucharist as the pledge of Christ's Body hereafter to be slain; but as the memorial of His Body once already slain for the sins of men.

St. Paul speaks of the Communion as a Sacrifice. He

^h Part i. p. [135,] &c.

charges the Christians at Corinth, "not to be idolaters;" he means, such idolaters as the Israelites were, when "they sat down to eat and drink" before the golden calf; therefore by idolatry he means eating things offered to idols. He again cautions them to flee from this idolatry; and uses this argument against eating things offered to idols, namely, that by eating of what has been sacrificed men communicate with that God to whom it was offered. To prove this, he begins with the Eucharist, and asks, "The Cup of blessing, which we bless, is it not the communion of the Blood of Christ? the Bread which we break, is it not the communion of the Body of Christ?" True communion consists in giving and receiving; and if the Eucharist be the most proper way of communicating with God, then it must consist in giving somewhat to Him, and receiving somewhat from Him; and the Apostle here seems to tell us what we give to God, and receive again from Him, viz., the Body and Blood of Christ, signified or represented by Bread and Wine: therefore, in calling the Eucharist the communion of this Body and Blood, he at once proves what he intended, and shews that we both give or offer the Sacramental Body and Blood of Christ to God, and that we have It returned to us again, to make a spiritual or religious banquet; and by this means do perfectly communicate with the One God, which is that he was to prove. He argues next from the Jewish sacrifices, and observes, that "they that eat of them are partakers of the altar,"^{1 Cor. x. 18.} that is, they share the sacrifices between the altar and themselves; what is burnt on the altar is God's portion, what they eat is their own; and thus by parting the same living creature betwixt God and themselves, they communicate and are as it were partners with Him. Then he proceeds to shew the absurdity of being communicants with the True, and false Gods, at one and the same time; "I would not," says he, "that ye should have fellowship,"^{1 Cor. x. 20, 21.} or communion "with devils," by eating things sacrificed to them; "ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's Table and the table of devils; ye cannot drink the Cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils." The table of devils is clearly an altar erected to idols; there-

ⁱ Phil. iv. 4. "No Church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only."

1 Cor. x. 16
proves the
Eucharist a
Sacrifice.

1 Cor. x. 7.

Exod.

xxxii. 6.

1 Cor. x. 14.

fore the Table of the Lord must be the Christian Altar: and I have elsewhere^k shewed at large, that the Table of the Lord is a title never given to any thing in Scripture but to the Altar of the True God, and we can be partakers of the Altar of God only by eating or drinking what has been offered on it. And this the Apostle intimates, when he says, “ We cannot drink the Cup of the Lord and the cup of devils:” for, as by the cup of devils he means the liquor offered to idols; so by the Cup of the Lord we can reasonably understand nothing but the consecrated Wine, which must therefore have been offered to the True God.

And Heb.
xiii. 10.

Heb. xiii.
10.

The same Apostle, at another place, speaks of “ an Altar, whereof they who served the tabernacle,” that is, the Jewish priests, “ had no right to eat.” Now the Communion-Table was most usually called an Altar, in the three first centuries after Christ, as I have shewed on another occasion^l. And whereas the Apostle speaks of eating “ of,” or from “ the Altar^m,” this seems clearly to point to the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, which was indeed taken from the Altar to be distributed; whereas that part of the Jewish sacrifice, which was intended to be eaten either by the priest or people, was never laid on the altar, and so could not be taken or eaten from it. Some, by the Altar, would understand the Cross of Christ; and by eating, they would have the Apostle mean, believing in Him; and then the sense will be, that the priests who serve the Jewish tabernacle have no right to believe in Christ. But this cannot be the Apostle’s meaning, because it is not true; for both the Jewish priests and people had the right, privilege, or power of believing in Christ; nay, to them and their children the offer of the Gospel was first made; therefore, by the Altar, we can rationally understand nothing but the Communion-Table; and, by consequence, the Sacrifice, which we receive from thence and which the Jewish priests had no right to eat, is the Eucharist.

And 1 Tim. vi. 12, 13. The same Apostle tells Timothy, Bishop of Ephesusⁿ, “ Thou

^k See Part i. p. [408.]

^l Part i. p. [405.]

^m Θυσιαστήριον ἔχομεν, ἐξ οὗ φαγεῖν
οὐκ ἔχουσι, κ. τ. λ.

ⁿ 1 Tim. vi. 12, 13. See Part i. p. [224.] and the page immediately after

the Contents, where I have proved that the Greek word here used does never signify any thing but an oblation or sacrifice, in the Greek Translation, or in the New Testament.

hast made the good Oblation before many witnesses," and that Jesus Christ testified, confirmed, or ratified this good Oblation under Pontius Pilate, that is, while he was governor of Judæa. This is the plain certain sense of these texts. Now I suppose it impossible to assign any oblation, that was first testified by Christ, afterwards offered by Bishop Timothy, except that of the Eucharist; and of this the Apostle is to be understood, when he speaks of "the High-Priest of our Oblation," and of "holding fast our Oblation."

It has been thought an objection against the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, that St. Paul says, Christ was "but once offered;" and if, indeed, He had offered Bread and Wine only, when He had instituted the Eucharist, and had afterwards on the Cross made a distinct priestly oblation of His natural Body and Blood; then there would have been some force in this objection. But it appears by the account now given, that He did, as a Priest, offer His Body and Blood in the Eucharist, under the pledges of Bread and Wine; that He was afterwards slain as a Sacrifice on the Cross: but there is no evidence that He did again on the Cross make the oblation of His Body and Blood as a Priest; He finished the Sacrifice of Himself by entering as a High-Priest into Heaven, the true Holy of Holies, and He gives life to our Sacrifice, by always appearing there in the presence of God for us.

Another specious objection against this doctrine is, that it seems to make the Sacrifice offered by Christ imperfect; for St. Paul supposes that if the Jewish sacrifices on the day of expiation "could have made the comers thereunto perfect, they would have ceased to be offered," and not been repeated every year. And this would indeed be a great difficulty, if we asserted, as the Papists do, that Christ's natural or substantial Body is offered in every Eucharist; but this we absolutely deny. Further, I have formerly proved^p, that the Apostle by "making" the comers to the sacrifices of the Jews "perfect," does only mean rendering men for ever after capable of appearing in the public worship of God, without yearly renewing the sacrifices on the day of expiation, as the Jews were bound to do. And it is clear, that Christ by His per-

^o Heb. iii. 1; x. 23. See Part i. [pp. 224, 225.]

^p See Part i. [pp. 178—226,] especially [pp. 203, &c.]

How Christ
was but
once
offered.

The Sacri-
fice of the
Eucharist
does not
render the
personal
Sacrifice
less per-
fect.

Heb. x. 1,
2.

sonal Sacrifice has, in this sense, once for all perfected His people; for the priests and people and the very altar of the Jews were unfit for Divine worship, if they were not yearly cleansed and purified by the sacrifices offered on the expiation day; but the services of the Christian Church have been once for ever sanctified by the offering of Christ's natural Body and Blood. And I must further observe, that the perfection of Christ's personal Sacrifice cannot be better established than by asserting, as I have ever done, that the merits of It are sufficient to give efficacy to the Sacrifice of the Eucharist for ever after; and that by the Sacrifice of the Eucharist the merits of the personal Sacrifice are to be applied to the members of Christ's Church, as occasion requires.

That there
are sacri-
fices with-
out life or
blood.

It may be supposed by some, that, though the Eucharist administered by our Saviour was a real Sacrifice, because under the pledges of Bread and Wine He offered His own Body and Blood to God the Father; and this Body of His was actually slain, and His Blood shed in a few hours after; yet that the Communion, as now administered, cannot be a Sacrifice, because no natural blood is therein poured out. But this surmise is grounded on a plain mistake; and the mistake is this, that nothing without life and blood can be a sacrifice. I have proved, and shall effectually prove, the contrary. In truth, I can find no ground for this fancy, but only this, that our English translators in the Old Testament do never give the name of Sacrifice to any thing, but only to living creatures slain in honour to God. But my reader is to observe, that there was no reason for this but the will and pleasure of the translators only. The most ancient translators^q, I mean the Greek, who perfectly well understood the nature of a sacrifice, give this name to a *mincha* or meal-offering one hundred and thirty-eight times, to a slain beast but one hundred and twenty-nine times. Our translators could not have followed better guides as to this particular. I do not find that ever any man doubted but that a thing without life might be a proper sacrifice, until this was found necessary to serve a present turn; I mean, to subvert the primitive doctrine of the Sacrifice in the Eucharist. Dr. Ou-

^q See Kircher's Concordance, pp. 574, &c.

tram^r who is so greatly and justly magnified by these very men, and Mr. Ainsworth^s, the most learned of the old Dissenters, do both expressly affirm that some things without life were Levitical sacrifices.

Some think it a great objection against this doctrine, that the Eucharist is never expressly called a Sacrifice in the New Testament. Yet these very men do call it a Sacrament, though neither is that name given to it by the sacred writers. But, certainly, when Christ calls the Bread, "My Body given," or offered "for you;" the true sense and meaning is 'My Body sacrificed for you.' And further, I may dare to say I have proved beyond all exception^t, that when St. Paul speaks of 'an Oblation confirmed' by Christ and offered by Timothy, by the Oblation he means the Eucharist. And that this word signifies such an Oblation as is indeed a Sacrifice appears from this, that even our English translators do twice or thrice^u call that a sacrifice or burnt-offering, which the Greeks express by the word here used by St. Paul; and which therefore may justly be turned Sacrifice here.

^r De Sacrific., p. 79. Eorum, quæ et oblata et ritu sacro consumpta erant, (qualia sola a Judæis pro sacrificiis haberi solent) alia erant ex inanimis, alia autem ex animantibus. Ed. Amstelod.

^s On Levit. i. 3. "There were five sorts of sacrifices ordinary, instituted of God; 'burnt-offerings,' (commanded here); 'meat-offerings,' (in Lev. ii.);

'peace-offerings,' (in Lev. iii.); 'sin-offerings,' (in Lev. iv.); and 'trespass-offerings,' (in Lev. v. 15.)"

^t See Part i. p. [223,] &c., and page next after the Contents.

^u See Jer. xvii. 26; Amos iv. 5; in Ezek. xlvi. 12, the *homology*, or 'free-will-offering' is clearly a 'whole burnt-offering.'

That the
Eucharist
is in effect
called a
Sacrifice in
Scripture.

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It is necessary to state here, that ‘Bishop Poynet’s Testimony,’ the ‘Animadversions on the Christian Eucharist rightly stated, &c.’ and the ‘Reflections on the Defence of the Bishop of Oxford’s Charge,’ which in the present Edition are appended to the Second Volume, occur at the end of the First in the two original Editions. It may be well to add that in the Edition of 1724, (i. e. the Second Ed. of the First Volume,) the following passages were omitted :

From “This gentleman,” to “treating his argument and his antagonist.” Animadversions, p. 321.

- “I desire the reader,” to “his Epistles,” p. 323.
- “Saying of grace?” to “behind them,” p. 324.
- “and I will engage,” to “a very sorry one too,”
p. 325.
- “This is very arch,” to “a third,” p. 326.
- “Here he speaks,” to “comparison,” p. 328.
- “This I give my reader,” to “Body and Blood,”
p. 329.
- “The words, which he is so very fond of,” p. 329,
to “hunt for such small game as this,” p. 330.
- “And here I cannot,” p. 331, to “taken the oaths,”
p. 332.
- “P. 54. His words,” p. 333, to “approbation,”
p. 334.
- “P. 131,” to “join issue with him,” p. 334.
- “He introduces this citation,” to “any service,”
p. 335.
- “P. 173,” to “antiquity,” p. 339.
- “P. 179,” to “apologist’s reply,” p. 340.
- “As before he called,” to “common meal,” p. 345.

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From "I know what the Doctor would be at," p. 346, to
"chap. ii. sect. 1," p. 347.

- "P. 284," to "overpower us," p. 356.
- "I was surprised," to "by halves," p. 357.
- "By the Law of Moses," to "we in ours," p. 358.
- "Thus the Doctor," to "the Evangelical *Mincha*,"
p. 361.
- "P. 313. Now to wind up," p. 363, to "equally
defective," p. 370.

— "We have before seen," to "Liturgy." Reflections,
p. 375.

— "I will give him one demonstration," to "sacrificing
Priest," p. 383.

Besides the above, a few expressions were left out here and
there, wherein our Author, in the 1st Ed. had adopted the
style of personal acrimony, too common in writers of his age.

A DISCOURSE ON THE UNBLOODY SACRIFICE, AND ALTAR.

PART II.

CHAP. I.

IN WHICH THE AGREEMENT AND DISAGREEMENT OF THE EUCHARIST WITH THE SACRIFICES OF THE ANCIENTS IS CONSIDERED, WITH AN INTENTION TO SHEW, THAT THE EUCHARIST IS NOT THE LESS A SACRIFICE, BECAUSE IN SOME RESPECTS IT DIFFERS FROM THE SACRIFICES OF THE ANCIENTS, AND THAT IT IS INDEED A MORE EXCELLENT SACRIFICE THAN THEIRS WERE.

SECT. I.

The Eucharist agrees with the most solemn sacrifices of the ancients in this, that it is attended with a feast upon the things offered to God.

THE true and full notion of the Eucharist is, that it is a religious feast upon Bread and Wine, that have first been offered in sacrifice to Almighty God, and are become the mysterious Body and Blood of Christ. The Papists, both in their notions and practice, represent it more like a bare Sacrifice than as a feast on a Sacrifice; for the generality of their Masses are nothing else but a mere offering of the Sacrament to God in their superstitious manner, without any distribution of the holy symbols to the people. Others endeavour to have it thought nothing more than a religious feast. These are two faulty extremes. The truth is, that the holy Eucharist, according to the institution of Christ, and the

The Eucha-
rist is a
feast on a
Sacrifice.

CHAP. I. judgment of the ancient Church, is a feast upon a Sacrifice. That it is a Sacrifice, I have already shewed ; that it is a feast, I need not take any pains in proving, since it is the universal opinion of all Protestants. The truth is, this Sacrament has so long been discoursed of and used as a feast only, that too many think these two notions contrary to each other ; and imagine, that if it be a feast, it cannot be a Sacrifice. Therefore I shall here make it my business to shew, that these two notions are not only fairly consistent, but that, in truth, sacrificing and religious feasting are things which God hath in all ages joined together, and that therefore they ought by no means to be put asunder.

The practice of Jacob and Jethro prove this.

Gen. xxxi. 54.

Exod. xviii. 12.

We know not the laws of Divine worship given to the ancients before the Law of Moses. Josephus^a indeed tells us, that Noah, when he had sacrificed to God, made a feast for all his family, though the Scripture mentions no other sacrifices offered by him but burnt-offerings only. The Septuagint make it the fault of Cain's sacrifice, that it was not rightly divided, too great a share was taken for the feast, too little left to God ; but the Hebrew differs from them. Yet it is certain, that "Jacob offered sacrifice upon the mount, and called his brethren to eat bread, and they did eat bread." 'Eating bread' is a phrase used in Scripture for feasting; and here it is evident, that Jacob made a feast to his relations of the cattle which he had offered in sacrifice. Jethro was no Israelite, and therefore the sacrifices offered by him may safely be affirmed to have been in all respects agreeable to the primitive laws of Divine worship ; and of him we are informed, that he "took a burnt-offering and sacrifices for God, and Aaron came and all the elders of Israel, and eat bread with him before God." And that this was the practice of the Israelites, long before the giving of the Law, appears sufficiently from this ; that Moses and Aaron, in their address to Pharaoh, use these two phrases^b of "holding a feast to God" and "sacrificing to the Lord," as expressing the very same sense.

^a Lib. i. c. 3. [tom. i. p. 12. Ed. Hudson. Oxon. 1720.] Θύσας τῷ Θεῷ συνευωχεῖτο τοῖς οἰκέτοις.

^b Exod. v. 1 ; "Thus saith the Lord, Let the people go, that they may hold

a feast to Me in the wilderness." Ver. 3 ; "Let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the Lord our God."

Though feasting upon sacrifice was more ancient than the SECT.
I. Law, yet it pleased God to give more particular rules and The Jewish
sacrifices
attended
with a feast. precise directions concerning the distribution and eating of the things offered at the altar, in the books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, than had ever been given before. The sin-offering and trespass-offering, the first-born and the meal-offerings were divided between God and the priests; in the peace-offerings, only the people had their share; the burnt-offerings were wholly consumed in the fire, so that neither the priests nor the people had any portion reserved for them. But then, it is observed by them who are best versed in the Jewish learning^c, that burnt-offerings were usually attended with peace-offerings, only^d some except such burnt-offerings as were offered for the whole congregation. Therefore we are not to wonder, if Josephus supposes that Noah's burnt-offerings were accompanied with peace-offerings, and that he entertained his family with the remainder of them. We may therefore safely conclude, that the generality of sacrifices among the Jews were accompanied with a feast; and their very language speaks this; for the same word *בָרֵךְ* signifies both feast and sacrifice.

And what comes nearer to our purpose still is this, that the Passover, which was the most solemn sacrifice among the No part of
the Pass-
over was
burnt. Jews, and which God gave in charge to that people before the Law or even the Ten Commandments, was to be wholly eaten; and this was a sacrifice, which, as it was a special type of the Eucharist, so it exactly agreed with it in this particular, namely, that God took no portion to Himself, nor assigned any precise share to the priest; but it became wholly a feast to the owners, whether priests or laymen. Dr. Cudworth^e, indeed, from an old manuscript of a Karaite Jew, has cited some words intimating that the inwards of the Paschal lamb were burnt on the altar. This, if it was to be relied on as true in fact, is only a proof of what our Saviour says of the Jews of His age, namely, that "they had made

^c See Ainsw. on Exod. xxiii. 15. This indeed seems to be the meaning of that law, Lev. iii. 5, where orders are given concerning the 'fat of the peace-offering,' and it is said, "Aaron's sons shall burn it on the altar, upon

the burnt-sacrifice."

^d See Cudworth's True Notion of the Lord's Supper, [p. 4. Ed. Lond. 4to. 1642.]

^e Ibid., p. [30.]

CHAP. I. the commandments of God of none effect, through their tradition," as Bochart long since observed. For certainly, if there be any law in the five books of Moses easy to be understood, this is one, that they should "eat the flesh" of the lamb, "roast with fire, his head, with his legs, and the purtenance thereof."

Jewish festivals consisted of sacrifices and feasts.

Exod. xii. 8, 9.
Lev. xvi. 27.
Lev. iv. 11, 12, 20, 21.
1 Sam. xvi. 5, 11.

Further, it is certain, that the devotion of the Jewish festivals consisted in offering sacrifices, and entertaining the priests and Levites, the widow, the fatherless, and stranger, on the flesh and other materials, which they then offered to God. It is true, they did not on these festivals confine themselves to eat of nothing else but what was offered in sacrifice; but other provision, as the third year's tithe, and the yearly tithe, was made for this purpose, that priests and Levites, Israelites and strangers, might "rejoice before the Lord." But this is evident, that offering sacrifices, and feeding upon these sacrifices, was the principal part of their festivals; therefore on the day of expiation, which was a solemn fast in which both priests and people were to afflict their souls, the bullock for the priest's sin-offering and the goat for the people's sin-offering were to be wholly consumed in the fire, no part of them was to be reserved. These were bare sacrifices, without any feast annexed to them; for the day on which they were offered was a day of abstinence; and it is highly probable that every day, on which an occasional sacrifice was offered for the sin of the high-priest or of the congregation, according to the directions of the Law, was also kept as a day of fasting and humiliation, which was one reason why

those sacrifices were wholly consumed by fire; but these few exceptions are not sufficient to annul the general rule, viz., that religious feasts were the attendants on sacrifice. And this is not only true of the great feasts, which were enjoined by the Law, but of such as were upon any singular occasion appointed by men of character and authority in the Jewish nation. When Samuel came to Bethlehem to anoint David,

he tells the elders of the town, "I am come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice; and he sanctified Jesse and his sons, and called them to the sacrifice." This public invitation to the elders, and particularly to Jesse and his family, imports an enter-

tainment intended to be made for them upon the heifer, SECT.
I. which he brought for a sacrifice. And this is further intimated in the words of Samuel, when he insisted on having David sent for; “we will not sit down till he come hither.” We read of such another sacrifice with a feast, in which Samuel, as a Prophet, seems to have officiated. For the young maidens tell Saul and his servant, “Behold [Samuel] is 1 Sam. ix.
12, 13. before you, for he came to-day to the city; for there is a sacrifice of the people to-day in the high-place,—the people will not eat till he come, because he doth bless the sacrifice, and afterwards they eat that be bidden.” When David, upon his bringing the ark to Jerusalem, “had offered burnt-2 Sam. vi.
17, 19. offerings and peace-offerings before the Lord, he dealt among all the people a cake of bread, and a flagon of wine, and a good piece of flesh.” And Solomon, when he dedicated the temple, “offered burnt-offerings, meat-offerings, and 1 Kings viii.
64, 65. peace-offerings; and at that time Solomon held a feast, and all Israel with him, fourteen days;” as likewise upon his first accession to the throne, he “offered up burnt-offer-1 Kings iii.
15. ings, and peace-offerings, and made a feast to all his servants.”

And lest any should wonder that such feasts as were not solemnized by any Divine authority should be ushered in with sacrifice, it deserves our particular notice, that the Israelites, during their pilgrimage in the wilderness, were not allowed to furnish their private tables with the flesh of any animal but what had first been offered in sacrifice to the True God. The Law is very express in this point, “What man soever he be that killeth an ox, or lamb, or goat, in the camp, or killeth it out of the camp, and bringeth it not to the door of the tabernacle of the congregation to offer an offering to the Lord, that man should be cut off from among His people. And the priest shall sprinkle the blood upon the altar of the Lord, and burn the fat for a sweet savour unto the Lord.” So that the common meals of the Israelites for those forty years consisted of peace-offerings; I mean, as often as they indulged themselves in eating flesh.

It will be very proper to consider the practice of the Gentiles as well as of the Jews, under this head; for He, The Gen-
tiles feasted
on sacrifices
very early. Who is the God of both, may reasonably be presumed to

C H A P. I. have had a regard to the notions and ancient usages of the former, as well as of the latter, in the whole frame of the Gospel dispensation. And the Scripture affords us sufficient proof that the heathen, even in the age of Moses, did make feasts on their sacrifices. Therefore the reason given, why the Israelites must destroy the altars and images of the former inhabitants of the land of Canaan is thus expressed,

Exod. xxxiv. 15. “Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice.”

Exod. xxxii. 15. The Israelites themselves give us a sample of the method used by the heathen in this case, which is thus represented by Moses, “Aaron built an altar before the golden calf, and made a proclamation, saying, To-morrow is a feast unto the Lord. And they rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt-offerings, and brought peace-offerings, and the people sat down to eat and drink.” We have another notable instance of the heathens’ practice in this respect, where it is

Numb. xxv. 2. said of the Moabites, “They called the people [of Israel] to the sacrifice of their gods, and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods.”

This cus-
tom con-
tinued a-
mong them.
Isa. lvii. 7;
Ezek. xxiii.
40, 41;
xviii. 11.

That this custom continued amongst them in after-ages is sufficiently intimated to us by Isaiah and Ezekiel, who speak of the ‘sitting upon beds,’ and ‘eating upon the mountains,’ as the practice of the loose Jews, in which they imitated the heathen. For all that are not utterly unacquainted with ancient writers cannot but know that the old Eastern people as well as Romans, did not sit at their tables, as the custom is now with us, but leaned or lay down on beds or couches; nor is it necessary that I should cite Scripture for the proof of that, which the heathen writers themselves do so abundantly testify. Homer, in the descriptions of sacrifices, usually concludes them with a feast. The first observable sacrifice mentioned by this ancient writer, offered by Chryses and sent to him by Agamemnon, was eaten^f after it had been first offered by burning the thighs. At the next sacrifice, six of

^f Αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ κατὰ μῆρος ἐκάη, καὶ σπλάγχν' ἐπάσσαντο,
Μίστυλλόν τ' ἄρα τάλλα, καὶ ἀμφ' ὁβελοῖσιν ἔπειραν,
“Ωπτησάν τε περιφραδέως, ἐρύσαντό

τε πάντα.
Αὐτὰρ ἐπεὶ παύσαντο πόνου, τετύ-
κοντό τε δάιτα,
Δαινυντ^g—Iliad. A. ver. 464-8. [Ed.
Tauchnitii, 1839.]

the Greek commanders are invited guests, and Menelaus ^{SECT. I.} comes unexpected; and he^g uses almost the same words in the description of it, that he had done in the former. He at another place^h gives a relation of a most generous sacrifice of eighty-one bullocks, at which there were four thousand five hundred guests sitting, besides Telemachus and his company, who came unexpected. Alcinousⁱ sacrifices twelve sheep, eight swine, two bullocks; and makes a feast of them. I have in the First Part mentioned the sacrifice of Eumeus, who offered a swine upon Ulysses' coming to him *incognito*, and reserved the chine for his guest^k, and entertained all that were with him on the flesh of the sacrifice. The most particular narrative of a sacrifice is of that offered by Nestor^l, which was also concluded, as the rest, with an entertainment upon the bullock that had been sacrificed. It were no difficult matter to heap up authorities from other Greek writers, but I will only mention two from Herodotus. This most ancient historian^m speaks of two young men, who having sacrificed and feasted lay down to sleep in the temple, and there died. He tells us, in another place, that the Persians, who used no fire or altars for their sacrifices, had the flesh at their own disposal; but though this was left to their discretion, yet there is good reason to believe, that they applied the flesh to that use which was most proper, I mean, the treating of themselves and their friends; and, indeed, Straboⁿ does expressly tell us so much. It is well known that the sacrifices of the Latins differed very little from those of the Grecians, and therefore there is no occasion to use many words to prove that they made feasts on the sacrifices which

^g Iliad. B. ver. 424.

^h Ἐννέα δ' ἔδραι ἔσαν, πεντηκόσιοι δὲ ἐνέκαστη.—Odys. Γ. ver. 9.

Ἐλατο, καὶ προύχοντο ἐκάστοθι ἐν-

νέα ταῖρους.

Ἐδθ' οἱ σπλαγχνοῦ ἐπάσαντο, θεῷ δὲ ἐπὶ μηρὶ ἔκηνα.

Ἐνθ' ἄρα Νέστωρ ἡστὸ σὺν νιάσιν· ἀμφὶ δὲ ἑταῖροι ver. 32.

Δαιτὴ ἐτυνόμενοι, κρέα ὅπτων, κλλα τὴ ἔπειρον.

ⁱ —Ἀλκίνοος δυοκαίδεκα μῆλη ἵερευ- σεν.—Odys. Θ. ver. 59.

Οκτώ δὲ ἀργιόδοντας ὥντος, δύο δὲ εἰλιποδας βοῦς·

Τὸν δέρον ἄμφι θεῷ ἔπον, τετύκοντό τε δαιτὴ ἐρατεινήν.

JOHNSON.

E

^k See Part i. Unbloody Sacrifice, [p. 74.]

Νάτοισιν δὲ Ὀδυσσῆα διηνεκέεσσι γέ-
ραιρεν.—Odys. Σ. ver. 437.

Οἱ δὲ ἐπ' ὄνειαθ' ἔτοιμα προκείμενα
χείρας λαλον. ver. 453.

^l This is expressed almost in the same words that are used in the first citation above produced. See Odys. Γ. ver. 461, 470.

^m Ως ἔθυσάν τε καὶ ἐνωχήθησαν, κατα-
κοιμηθέντες κ.τ.λ. Clio. c. [31.]

ⁿ Μερίσαντος δε τοῦ Μάγου τὰ κρέα
τοῦ ὑφηγουμένου τὴν ιερουργίαν ἀπίστι
διελόμενοι, τοῖς θεοῖς οὐδὲν ἀπονείμαντες
μέρος.—Lib. 15. circa finem, [p. 1065.
tom. ii. Ed. Amstelodam. 1707.]

CHAP. I. they offered. Virgil makes this practice as ancient as the times of Evander^o. And, indeed, this way of consuming sacrifices by eating, must have prevailed more amongst the Greeks and Latins than ever it did among the Jews; for whole burnt-sacrifices were the most rare among these heathen people. They did indeed use them upon some special occasions; and the most remarkable is that related by Pausanias^p, which was offered by the Boeotians but once in sixty years, in which not only the vast pile of sacrifices of all sorts, but the very altar itself, made of timber, was reduced to ashes. But, with the Jews, these burnt-offerings were very frequent, and even common; and when all the sacrifice was consumed by fire, there was nothing left to feast either the priests or people, unless the peace-offerings made at the same time had supplied that defect. But since the generality of the sacrifices of the Gentiles were not wholly burnt, we may from thence, if we had no other evidence, safely conclude, that they were reserved to entertain them, at whose expence they were offered, and their friends.

Numb. xxiii. 1, 2. 29, 30. It is indeed probable that, in the most ancient times, the heathen did frequently offer whole burnt-sacrifices; but Prometheus^q is said to have introduced the practice of burning only the loin and thighs, as most acceptable to the gods, and not so chargeable to the offerers, as when they burned the whole carcase.

And even to the Apostles' time. We have a very full and clear evidence, that this custom of feasting upon sacrifices continued among the heathen in the time of the Apostles; for they saw occasion to make a decree, that Christians should not eat of things offered or sacrificed to idols. For the heathen of that age used the

^o Aeneid. v. ver. 100, 103, 175, 179, &c.

— tum res inopes Evandrus habebat.

Una omnes juvenum primi, pauperque senatus,

Tura dabant, tepidusque cruar fumabat ad aras.

Tum lecti juvenes certatim aræque sacerdos

Viscera tosta ferunt taurorum, onerantque canistris

Dona laboratæ Cereris, Bacchumque ministrant.

Vescitur Aeneas, simul et Trojana

juventus

Perpetui tergo bovis et lustralibus extis.

^p [i. e. the Dædala. Vid.] Pausan. in Boeotic. [lib. ix. cap. iii. vol. iv. p. 12. Ed. Siebel. Lips. 1828.]

^q See Æschylus, in Prometh. Vincl. Prometheus says, ver. [505. Ed. Blomfield.]

Κνίσῃ δε κῶλα συγκαλυπτά, καὶ μακρὰν

‘Οσφὺν πυρώσας, δυστέκμαρτον εἰς τέχνην

‘Ωδωσα θυητούς —

same art to seduce the Christians and bring them to their ^{L.} SECT. temples, as the Moabites had formerly done to corrupt the Israelites ; they called or invited them to eat of the sacrifices, which they had offered to their false gods ; and Christ, in the Revelations, mentions some loose men in the Church of Pergamos, “ who held the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak Rev. ii. 14. to cast a stumbling-block,” that is, ‘to eat things sacrificed to idols.’ There was great reason to forbid Christians this profane practice ; because, as we lately heard, St. Paul expressed his sense of this matter, “ we cannot be partakers of the Lord’s Table, and the table of devils.” It is highly unfit for Christians, who eat the Sacrifices offered upon the Altar of the Church, to defile themselves with meats that had been sacrificed to what the Gentiles called gods, but were indeed no better than devils.

Sometimes it is very evident, that the feast was the chief Feasting end and design, which he who sacrificed proposed to himself ; and, in this case, the person, at whose expence the sacrifice was sometimes the chief end of sacrifice. is made, is said to offer to the guests. So Josiah^r is said to ‘offer’ to the people thirty-three thousand bullocks ; and the princes are said to ‘offer’ to the people, to the priests and Levites, two thousand six hundred small cattle, and three hundred oxen. And five of the chief of the Levites are said to ‘offer’ to the other Levites five thousand small cattle and five hundred oxen. So Alcinous^s “ sacrifices” several beasts to a large assembly of guests, to whom he had made an invitation, as he did also at another time to entertain Ulysses. Eumæus^t uses an expression of the same sort upon Ulysses’ arrival. And for the same reason the Eucharist is by some of the ancients said to be offered to the people.

Upon the whole, it is evident that a sacrifice and a religious feast are very near akin to each other ; or, rather, they are but two parts of the same worship, which both among Jews and Gentiles used to go hand in hand together : and that, therefore, it is so far from being inconsistent with the

^r 2 Chron. xxxv. 7, 8, 9. מִרְאֵת certainly signifies to ‘offer,’ as it is rendered by our translators in the margin.

^s Τοῖσιν δ' Ἀλκίνοος δυοκαίδεκα μῆλα τερευστεν.—Odys. Θ. v. 59.

^t Ἄξεθ' ὅῶν τὸν ἔριστον, ἵνα ξείνω iερεύσω.—Odys. Ζ. ver. 414.

And again, upon Ulysses’ coming, Alcinous says,

Ξεῖνον ἐνὶ μεγάροις ξενίσσομεν, ἥδε θεοῖσιν

‘Ρέξομεν ιερὰ καλά’—Odys. H. ver. 190.

The Gentiles, in this, not to be blamed.

CHAP. I. Sacrament, as it is a feast, to be also a Sacrifice, that it may rather seem reasonable to argue, that if it be a religious feast it is most probable it is a Sacrifice ; since it is very evident that all mankind, when our Saviour came into the world, joined sacrificing and feasting together. We are not to think it a fault in the Gentiles that they did this, since it is evident that the Jews did so too. The fault of the Gentiles was not this, that they feasted upon their sacrifices ; for God's people ever did the same. Their fault was, that they both sacrificed and feasted in honour to false gods. The other Sacrament of Baptism was instituted by Christ with a regard to the settled notions and practice of the heathen as well as Jews ; for they both used washing with water, as a rite of religious purgation. And it is full out as rational to believe, that God had some consideration of them in making the chief ordinance of our religion a Sacrifice as well as a feast ; since they, as well as the Jews, had accustomed themselves to perform both at once. I do not say that there never was any religious feast made upon meats and drinks, which had not been first offered to God in sacrifice ; but I may safely affirm, that the most solemn religious feasts were always of this sort ; such were the Passover, and the two other annual feasts of Weeks and Tabernacles among the Jews. And, therefore, if the Eucharist be not a feast of a very inferior rank, and in its nature entirely different from the most solemn religious feasts of former ages, it must be confessed to be a Sacrifice too.

Not the whole sacrifice, but a part of it, eaten generally of old.

It is true, that among the Jews the whole sacrifice was not usually allowed to be eaten, but some part to be burnt on the altar as God's share ; yet this was not necessary to make it a sacrifice, as appears from this, that the Passover was wholly

Exod. xxiii. 18; xxxiv. 25. to be eaten, and yet it was God's peculiar sacrifice. The blood of it indeed was not to be eaten or drunk ; not because it was the blood of a sacrificed creature, but because it was blood, and therefore absolutely forbidden to the Israelites. And, if we inquire into the practice of the Gentiles, we shall find that they had divers sacrifices, which were entirely converted into food for the entertainment of the priests and them who brought it to the altar. This was the common practice of the Persians, as appears from what was just now

cited from Strabo. It is well known, that the great Pythagoras^u offered no sacrifices but what were unbloody; and it is further to be observed, that he chose to pay his devotions at the altar of Delos, which was called ‘the Altar of the Godly;’ and this was an altar “without fire,” and on which therefore nothing could be burnt; but the custom was to place corn and cakes upon it. This was his method of offering sacrifice; and that therefore what he offered was designed for the entertainment of those who attended the altar, seems most probable. Of all the uncouth notions contrived in opposition to the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, none have betrayed greater ignorance in the contrivers of them, than that of a certain writer, who will allow no part of the beast to have been properly sacrificed but that which was burnt on the altar. It is evident, this man does not know the very terms of the subject on which he writes. The part burnt on the altar is by Moses called *isheh*, that is, the burnt portion, *κάρπωμα* in Greek, *ignitum* in Latin; the offering made by fire, in English: but the whole beast brought to the altar always passes by the name of *corban*, ‘gift,’ ‘oblation,’ or else of *zebach*, that is, the slain sacrifice. And if the whole beast had not been sacrificed, it would have been impossible for men to have been guilty of eating flesh sacrificed to idols, as 1 Cor. x. 25—28. many were in the Apostle’s times.

Further, it will appear upon an impartial examination, that a Sacrifice wholly eaten and drunk by the worshippers is most agreeable to the nature of the True God to Whom it is offered. For,

I. This is a clear demonstration that the Sacrifice is not intended as a boon or benefit to God, but for the advantage of them who offer it. It was the common opinion of the heathen, that their gods entertained themselves and

^u Θεωρήσαι δὲ ἑστὸν ἐκ τοῦ περὶ Δῆλον ἔτι νῦν σωζομένου βαμοῦ πρὸς ὃν οὐθὲνδς προσαγομένου παρ' αὐτοῖς, οὐδὲ θυομένου ἐπ' αὐτοῦ ζῶν, εὐσεβῶν κέκληται βαμός.—Porphyry. De Abstinent., lib. ii. p. 73. [Ed. Cant. 1655.]

—'Αμέλει καὶ βωμὸν προσκυνήσαι μόνον ἐν Δῆλῳ—διὰ τὸ πυρὸν καὶ κριθὰς καὶ τὰ πότανα μόνα τίθεσθαι ἐπ' αὐτοῦ ἔνευ πυρός.—Diogen. Laert. in Vit. Pythag., p. [217.]

It is commonly said that Pythagoras,

Eucharist
eaten, as
being
wholly for
our own
benefit.

upon some discovery made in Geometry, sacrificed a bullock. Cicero, lib. iii. De Nat. Deorum, [c. 88.] declares he cannot believe this, because it is well known that Pythagoras did not offer living creatures. Porphyry therefore does with great probability say, it was the effigies of a bullock made of paste. [ἔβοιθύησε δέ ποτε στατίνον, ὡς φασι, βοῦν, οἱ ἀκριβέστεροι.—De Vita Pythagoræ, p. 196, Ed. Cant.]

C H A P. I. were refreshed with the scents, which proceeded from the steams of the flesh and other things burnt upon their altars ; and what was so burnt was esteemed their share and portion of the sacrifice. God, for reasons which I shall not pretend to unfold, required a share to be given to Him out of the generality of the sacrifices offered by the Patriarchs and Israelites ; and in some cases He commanded the whole sacrifice to be consumed by fire, which was always esteemed a giving or presenting it entirely to Him ; and, for this cause, what was burnt was called the Bread or Food of God. This gave occasion to gross thoughts in some poor unthinking men, and to cavil in those that were loose and irreligious. The first conceited, that God had a sort of hungry appetite after the smoke of meat broiled upon His altar ; the others from thence took a handle for scoffing at all religion and Divine worship, of which Sacrifice was always thought the principal ; because it seemed to suppose that God stood in need of supplies from His own creatures. But now, in the Christian Sacrifice, there is no room left for any such misapprehensions, but it is effectually declared that God is never the better for what we offer to Him, and that though He accept our services, yet He does not want them ; and for this reason what we offer is wholly restored to us again for the food of our souls and bodies.

As being too worthy to be burnt. 2. Our Sacrifice is too excellent to be treated as the sacrifices of the Jews and heathens were, that is, to be burnt in the fire : for the Bread is made the mystical Body of Christ, the Wine His mystical Blood ; and to consume these in the fire, or to treat them, as Jews or heathen did the cattle or other things they offered, would savour of impiety and profaneness. We are indeed informed, that some^x did of old cast the Sacramental Body and Blood in the fire, when it was grown so stale as to be offensive ; but this was only to preserve it from greater and more unbecoming indignities, and was practised but by few, and not willingly or of choice, but when they could find no better way to dispose of it.

It is a sober feast. 3. The feast made upon the Eucharist is only a sober and modest refreshment ; for it has been and is the practice of Christians to taste of the holy symbols rather than to fill

* See [Bishop Poynet's *Diallacticon*, p. 16.]

their stomachs with them. Whereas, on the other side, the ^{SECT.}
 heathen and Jews used to eat and drink very plentifully of —
 their sacrifices, and even to intemperance and drunkenness.
 Among the heathen, to have ‘assisted at a sacrifice’ was but
 another phrase for being drunk^y. The Jews^z took four large
 draughts at their Passover, and were to be right-down drunk
 at the feast of Purim; and this probably gave occasion to the
 intemperance of the Christians at Corinth in their love-feasts,
 which they seem to have kept in the Church, before they re-
 ceived the Eucharist; for these people had been bred in the
 Jewish or heathen religion, and though they were now con-
 verts to Christianity, yet it seems they had not sufficiently
 learned the difference between the way of feasting among the
 Christians and among heathen and Jews.

The Eucharist is a spiritual feast, and refreshes and ^{And}
 strengthens the soul much more than the body. The Sa- ^{strengthens}
 craments are channels of grace; the Body and Blood of
 Christ in the Eucharist are what they are by virtue of the
 Holy Ghost, and there all pious communicants “are made to ^{1 Cor. xii.}
 drink into the One Spirit.” ^{13.}

5. The Eucharist is a Sacrifice, which was never intended
 by our Saviour to be offered but in order to the following
 feast; and this feast was designed for the people as well as priest,
 for the poor as well as the rich. This cannot be said of the
 generality of the Jewish sacrifices. The common offerings
 for sin were attended with a feast, but none but the priests
 had any share of them; the burnt-offerings were wholly
 consumed with fire, the peace-offerings were divided between
 the priests and those who brought them to the altar; but no ob-
 ligation laid on them to let the poor share with them, except
 only in those which were offered at their feasts of Weeks and ^{Deut. xvi.}
 Tabernacles. It does not appear that the rich were obliged
 to call their poor neighbours to partake with them even in
 the Passover itself; and when great men entertained the poor
 upon the remains of their sacrifices, this was an effect of their
 liberality, to which no law compelled them. Philo^a, indeed,

^y — *functusque sacris, et potus et exlex.* — Horat. Art. Poet. [v. 224. Ed. Amar. Paris. 1825.]

^z See Dr. Whithby on 1 Cor. xi. 21.

^a [De Animalibus sacrificio idoneis,

inter Philonis Opera, tom. ii. Ed. Man-
 gey, 1742.] Δυσὶ δὲ μόναις ἡμέραις
 ἐπιτρέπει τὴν χρῆσιν τῆς τοῦ σωτηρίου
 θυσίας ποιεῖσθαι, μηδὲν εἰς τὴν τρίτην
 ἀπολείποντας — ὅτι τὰς θυσίας ἀταμιεύ-

CHAP. I. gives this as a reason why the flesh of peace-offerings was all to be eaten within two days after it had been killed, namely, that God intended them not to be *pantryed*, but to be eaten by those who wanted ; and when David “ paid his vows,” he declared “ the poor should eat and be satisfied.” This proves that good and generous men put the best construction upon a mere ceremonial law ; but the Eucharist was a Sacrifice, in which from the beginning, Priest and people, rich and poor, did ever feast together. These are the excellencies of the Eucharist, considered as a feast upon a sacrifice.

CHAP. I. SECT. II.

The Eucharist agrees in the main with the most solemn sacrifices of the ancients, in the ends for which it is offered.

The ends or designs of men in offering sacrifice have always been the same in all ages and nations; these are of two sorts, viz.

First, particular, Secondly, general.

I. There are particular ends and designs, which men have always proposed to themselves in offering every sacrifice; these ends are various, but may be reduced to these following heads:

1. One particular end of sacrifice is, to render prayers or petitions for some special mercy more effectual.

2. Another end is, to express a grateful sense of some mercies or favours received.

3. A third end is, the expiating the guilt of sin, or obtaining pardon.

II. The general end of sacrifice is,

1. To acknowledge the power and dominion of that God to whom it is offered.

2. To render him gracious and favourable to the worshippers.

tous el̄nai prosōjkei, kai pā̄σin eis mē̄son prokeīsthai tō̄s deoménois. The last word seems to signify ‘the indigent,’ by what he says of them, who lay up the

flesh of peace-offerings, viz., that they do φειδωλίαν φιλανθρωπίας προκρίνειν, prefer frugality before charity.

3. To preserve covenant and communion with him.

SECT.
II.

I will first consider the particular ends which men of old might and ought to propose to themselves in offering sacrifice, and shew that Christians, in the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, may and ought to propose to themselves the same ends that the ancients did in offering their sacrifices.

1. THE first of these ends is, to render any particular prayers and petitions more effectual for procuring good or averting evil. We may know for what end Noah offered burnt-offerings, by considering the answer that God made to his devotion, which was this; “I will not again curse the ground for man’s sake, nor will I again smite every living thing; while the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night, shall not cease.” This was what he intended to ask God by his sacrifice, and it was accordingly granted. David prayed to God, when he saw the Angel smiting the people of Jerusalem; he confessed his sin and said, “Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly; let Thine hand, I pray Thee, be against me and my father’s house, and not against Thy people;” but this was not sufficient, till he had offered burnt-offerings and peace-offerings; and upon his doing this, “the Lord was intreated for the land, and the plague was stayed from Israel.” And the prayers of Job were not sufficient without a sacrifice offered by Eliphaz and his friends. Saul, to make an excuse for his having offered sacrifice, tells Samuel that he apprehended the Philistines would come down upon him to Gilgal, and (says he) “I have not made supplication to the Lord; I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt-offering.” He speaks according to the received notion of those times, namely, that to make supplications and offer sacrifice was the same thing; he would never have been guilty of that presumption that he was, in invading the priest’s office, if he had thought that prayer without sacrifice was as proper and effectual as with it. The king and people of Judah under captivity raise contributions for sacrifices to be offered at Jerusalem for the king of Babylon and for themselves; and in the letter, which they sent to Jerusalem upon this occasion,

First parti-
cular end
of Sacrifice,
to render
prayer ac-
ceptable.
Gen. viii.
20—22.

^{2 Sam.}
^{xxiv. 17—}
^{25; 1 Chron.}
^{xxi. 17.}

^{1 Sam. xiii.}
^{12.}

Baruch i.
6—13.

CHAP. I. they desire “burnt-offerings, sin-offerings, incense, and meat-offerings, to be offered on the altar, and that prayers may be made for the life of Nabuchodonosor, and for themselves.” And all the peace-offerings of the Jews, (except the thank-offerings, and vows, and festival sacrifices,) together with the burnt-offerings, were designed to procure some special favour of God, or to give greater force to the wishes and prayers of particular men upon extraordinary occasions. By this it appears, that it was a prevailing notion among God’s people of old, that to render prayers successful it was proper to enforce them with sacrifice; and it is not probable that a captive king and people would have been at so much cost for the purchasing of sacrifice, if they could have believed that it had been as acceptable to God to make their addresses to Him by words and thoughts only.

The Gentiles had this notion of sacrifice.

¹ Esdras vi. 29—31.

Ezra vi. 9, 10.

It is certain, that the heathen had the same conceptions in this particular. Cyrus had such an opinion of Sacrifice, that he commands a portion of the tribute of Cælo-Syria and Phœnice to be appropriated for buying bullocks, rams, lambs, corn, salt, wine, and oil, according to the direction of the priests, that “offerings might be made to the most High God for the king and his children, and that they might pray for their lives;” and Darius renewed this edict almost in the same words. Pliny, who was excellently well acquainted with the notions and practices of the ancient Romans, says^b, “they made their supplications with a salted cake;” this salted cake was the known sacrifice of Numa the second king of Rome, and his people. Virgil^c speaks of “prevailing in prayer by means of a bullock slain for sacrifice,” and of^d “carrying a cause with Juno by oblations which were full of intreaty or persuasion.” Sophocles^e supposes sacrifices necessary to the offering prayers for deliverance with success; and^f he represents things as in the last extremity, when prayers offered with sacrifice are rejected.

^b Nec minus propitiis [Dii] erant molâ salsâ supplicantibus.—Nat. Hist., lib. xii. c. 18.

^c Hic Helenus, cæsis primum de more juvencis,

Exort pacem Divum.—Æn. 3.

^d Junoni cane vota libens, domi-
namque potentem
Supplicibus supera donis.—ibid.

^e [Ἐπαιρε δὴ σὺ θύμαθ' ἡ παροῦσά
μοι]
Πάγκαρπ², ἀνακτι τῷδ' ὅπως λυτη-
ριούς
Εὐχὰς ἀνάσχω.—Sophoc. Electr.,
ver. 634-6.

^f [Καὶ τὸ δέχονται θυστάδας λιτὰς ἔτι
Θεοὶ παρ' ἡμῶν οὐδὲ μηρίων φλόγα·
—Antigone, v. 1019.]

2. Another particular end of sacrifice is, to express a SECT.
grateful sense of mercies or favours received; and this is a II.
head, on which there is no occasion for me to enlarge, because all will I suppose readily grant it; and, indeed, thanks and praise are but one branch of prayer, and that which renders men's petitions more acceptable must of consequence make our thanks so too. And I need no other argument to prove that Sacrifice makes our praises more acceptable but only this, that God did always require His people by this means to declare the inward gratitude of their hearts. Not only the Passover was intended to be a constant memorial of His mercy to the Israelites in delivering them from the Egyptian bondage, but^g all the stated festivals of the year had their peculiar sacrifices appointed and assigned to them. And that this was the settled judgment of all the people of old is evident from this, that both Jews and Gentiles universally agreed in sending up their praises to Heaven upon all extraordinary occasions with plentiful fumes of sacrifice and incense.

But because men have been used of late, when they hear of 'sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving,' to understand nothing by those phrases but singing psalms and hymns or offering up to God grateful words and thoughts, I therefore think it necessary to observe to my reader, that by these expressions we are generally, if not always, to conceive material sacrifice to be meant by the holy writers; and that this is true, you will perceive by the following texts; "The flesh of Lev. vii. 15. the sacrifice of peace-offerings for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day as it is offered; and when ye will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving, offer it at your own will, on the same day it shall be eaten." Hezekiah charged the people to "bring Lev. xxii. 29. sacrifices and thank-offerings into the house of the Lord; and the congregation brought sacrifices and thank-offerings, and as many as were of a free heart burnt-offerings;" and in the account of Manasseh's conversion it is said, "He repaired 2 Chron. xxxix. 31. the altar of the Lord, and sacrificed thereon peace-offerings and thank-offerings." And I have elsewhere^h shewed, that we are to understand this phrase in the same sense in other places of Scripture, and that a sacrifice of praise signifies that

Second particular end,
to express
thanks.

^g Read Lev. xxiii.; Numb. xxviii. xxix.

^h See Part i. p. [380,] &c.

CHAP. I. bullock or other substantial thing, which is offered to God as an acknowledgment for His mercies.

Third particular end, to expiate guilt, whether the sacrifice were bloody or un-bloody.

3. The third particular end of offering sacrifice has always been, to expiate guilt, and obtain pardon of sin and freedom from punishment. To this purpose the Jews had their sin-offerings and trespass-offerings, and the Gentiles their *hilastic* or *piacular* victims. In this case the beast was thought to be killed instead of the man, who by sin had forfeited his life; and Dr. Outram has so learnedly proved this from the concurrent opinions of Christians, Jews, and heathens, that there is no occasion for me to labour in this point. And it was this that put the heathen upon offering men in sacrifice for the expiation of their guilt; for in this case they thought no perfect satisfaction could be made but by causing some other person to die instead of the offender. This, Cæsarⁱ assures us, was the principle upon which the ancient Gauls sacrificed men; and it is not improbable, that the idolatrous Jews offered their own children to Moloch upon the same pretence; for it seems these unnatural sacrifices were generally performed for expiation, as the Prophet Mich. vi. 7. Micah intimates in these words, "Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" Yet it does not appear to me, that God did demand living creatures to be offered to Him by the Jews for their sins upon this consideration; though the latter Jews^j had such a notion prevailing amongst them.

Some of late are willing to suppose, that nothing but blood can expiate guilt. Now it is certain, that the ancient Jews had no such notion; David supposes, that though God were so displeased as to stir up Saul against him, yet He might be pacified by a *mincha* or meal-offering; and God Himself, to express the heinousness of the sin of Eli^k and his sons, says, "It shall not be purged with slain beast or meat-offering for ever:" by which is plainly implied, that the latter

1 Sam.
xxvi. 19.

ⁱ Qui sunt affecti gravioribus morbis, quique in præliis periculisque versantur, aut pro victimis homines immolant, aut se immolatuos vovent, administrisque ad eam rem Druidibus utuntur: quod pro vita hominis, nisi vita hominis reddatur, non posse aliter Deorum immortalium numen placari

arbitrantur.—De Bell. Gal. l. vi. [c. xv.]

^j Vid. Outram, p. 231.

^k 1 Sam. iii. 14. It is observable, that the LXX here turn **תְּמִינָה**, *mincha*, by θυσία ‘Sacrifice,’ and **זְבַח**, *zebach*, θυμίαμα, which does not so usually and expressly signify ‘sacrifice’ as the former does.

was as effectual to the purpose of taking away guilt as the former, and the offering of fine flour was as real a means of making an atonement for sin, as all the cattle upon a thousand hills¹. The ancient heathen believed, that a cake or a little meal was as proper and effectual to expiate sin as the largest bullock ; and therefore St. Paul does not say absolutely, “All things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood is no remission ;” but he qualifies these expressions by adding ‘almost.’

These three I call the *particular* ends of Sacrifice, because the ancients chiefly proposed to themselves some one of these ends in every sacrifice they offered. The occasion of sacrificing was, either to obtain some blessing, or to express their thanks and praise for some blessing already received, or else to procure forgiveness of sin, and to pacify the wrath of God, and be discharged from that punishment which was due for their sins ; but

2. There were other *general* ends of Sacrifice, to which the ancients had an eye in all the sacrifices which they offered, over and above the particular ends which I have already mentioned. These general ends were

1. The acknowledgment of God’s dominion, and other attributes. And this is implied in all sacrifices offered to Him : for it would be to no purpose to worship and honour Him with our substance, if we did not believe Him to be that Almighty Being, Who made and governs the world, and will hereafter judge it ; and Sacrifice is that worship, which God hath always required of His people. Even before the giving of the Law^m, ‘serving God’ and ‘sacrificing to God’ were phrases of the same import. God sufficiently declares by the Prophet Isaiah, that He accepted sacrifice as an honour done to Him, when He reproves the Israelites for not honour-

First gene-
ral end, the
owning
God’s do-
minion.

¹ (Θύματα) πάγκαρπα—ὅπως λυτηρόλοις οὐχὶς ἀνάσχω.—Sophoc. Elec., ver. 635.

Servius proves this, Aeneid. v. p. 406, from these words of Horace,

Mollibit aversos Penates

Farre pio et saliente mica.

And from that of Tibullus, Farre pio placant, et saliente mica.

And on Eclog. viii. he gives this

reason, why the ancients said, ‘Far pium ;’ “quid enim est pium nisi castum ? quoniam piare est propitiare.”

I will add the trite verses of Ovid to this purpose,

Ante, Deos homini quod conciliare valeret,

Far erat, et puri lucida mica salis.

[Fast., lib. i. v. 337.]

^m Compare Exod. iv. 23 with Exod. v. 3.

CHAP. ^{I.} ing Him with their sacrifices. It is a homage, service, or quit-rent paid to Him, as the great Landlord of the universe; and therefore St. Augustineⁿ justly affirms, that “to sacrifice is part of that service which we owe to God Alone.”

The Gentiles had this notion.

The heathen as well as Jews were sensible of this; and therefore the ancient idolaters called their gods Moloch, Baal, or by some other name importing supreme power or government. It is not indeed to be supposed, that they imagined all those gods, to whom they gave these titles, to be absolutely supreme and above all others, but only to have a prevailing power or jurisdiction in particular countries, or in those special things or matters in which the worshippers craved their assistance. It is true, the Gentiles did commonly believe One God to be the Father of the rest; nay, they as well as the Jews believed, or, at least, did in words acknowledge a Sovereign Almighty God; but with this difference, that though they generally acknowledged One Supreme God, yet they supposed He had many peers that shared with Him in this sovereignty. And this was indeed the grand fundamental error of the heathen world. Though Jupiter was the god of heaven and presided in all affairs, yet Neptune governed the sea, Ceres the dry land; and besides this, every country had its peculiar guardian god, according to their notions; and they offered sacrifice to all these gods with rites, which though they were not exactly the same, yet implied no distinction of honours, but an equal worship was done to all: and indeed their very offering sacrifice to them was the greatest honour they could possibly pay them, if they had esteemed them all to be absolute sovereigns.

Second general end, to procure the Divine favour.

2. Another general end, which the ancients intended in all their sacrifices, was, to render the god to whom they were offered favourable and graciously affected toward the worshippers. It is evident by the Levitical Law, that not only sin-offerings and trespass-offerings, but burnt-offerings and peace-offerings had an atoning or reconciling virtue. It is true, that no sacrifice but a sin or trespass-offering could take away guilt; but yet burnt-offerings and peace-offerings did render God more propitious or merciful to them, who brought them to the altar.

ⁿ I. p. 36. Ap..

It is said by God Himself, that “the blood maketh an atonement for the soul.” Some would from hence prove, that the bullock or goat which was offered for a sin-offering died, by the will and intention of God, instead of the offender. Now, though this may be true, yet I think them mistaken who urge this text in favour of it; they might as well from hence conclude, that a peace-offering or a thank-offering died instead of the offerer; for the blood of these latter was “an atonement for the soul,” as well as of the former. For it is certain, that whatever blood was sprinkled on the altar made an atonement; and therefore we cannot so restrain this phrase as if it signified only expiation of guilt; for if other sacrifices could have procured forgiveness of sin, there would have been no occasion for an offering for sin or trespass.

And it is very evident that the heathen had the same opinion, and therefore not only the sacrifice offered by Chrysēs^p for the expiating Agamemnon’s sin, but that offered by Nestor^q to express his gratitude for Minerva’s appearing to him, are both represented by Homer as propitiatory sacrifices.

3. The third and last general end of sacrificing was, preserving covenant and communion with the God, to whom the sacrifice was offered. I put ‘covenanting’ and ‘having communion’ under one head, as being in effect one and the same thing; for all that offered sacrifice by fire, when they burned a part or the whole of what they offered, did it upon an opinion, that what was thus consumed was in an especial manner given to that god and accepted by him. Moses calls it “Bread” or “Food of God;” because the fire which was on the altar did at first come down from heaven, in token that God did graciously receive the sacrifices there offered; and therefore no other fire was there to be used but this, which was there first kindled by a Divine power; and Nadab and

^p “One lamb out of the flock—for a burnt-offering, and for peace-offerings, to make reconciliation for them:” the word here turned ‘make reconciliation,’ is the same with that, Lev. xvii. 11, and there rendered ‘make an atonement.’ See also Lev. i. 4. See Ezek. xlvi. 15. 17.

^q —— Φοίβῳ θ' ἱερὴν ἔκατόμβην
‘Ρέξαι ὑπὲρ Δαναῶν, ὅφρ' ἵλασμεσθα
ἴνακτα.—Il. A. ver. 443.
“Οφρ' ἥτοι πρώτιστα θεῶν ιλασσομ'
Ἄθηνην,
“Η μοι ἐναργῆς ἥλθε θεοῦ ἐς δαῖτα
θάλειαν.—Odys. Γ. ver. 419.

Whether
the beast
died instead
of the
owner.
Lev. xvii.
11.

The
heathen
thought all
sacrifice
propitia-
tory.

Lev. ix. 24;
2 Chron.
vii. 1.

CHAP. I. Abihu, for offering strange fire, were struck dead upon the spot. It was well known, that the heathen endeavoured to ape the Jewish rites in this as well as other particulars. And even they who did not pretend to have this heavenly fire, yet always supposed, that their gods^s feasted with them and pleased themselves with the reeks and steams which proceeded from their altars; nay, that they did, in some sense, “eat the fat of their sacrifices, and drink the wine of their drink-offerings,” as Moses expresses their notion in this point. And latterwards, it is well known, [the] practice prevailed of placing the images of the gods, to whom they sacrificed, on rich beds at the most honourable part of the tables, which were furnished with meats and drinks offered to them; so that the gods were made, as it were, visible guests at their religious feasts.

Now eating and drinking together at the same table has always been deemed a token of friendship, mutual communion, and striking or preserving covenant with each other. Upon this ground, Sacrifice has ever been thought to imply the closest communion with God that men are capable of in Psalm 1. 5. this life. God says of His people, that they “made a covenant with Him by sacrifice;” for though He “cannot eat bulls’ flesh, or drink the blood of goats,” as the heathen believed their idols did, yet He always approved and kindly received sacrifices, offered to Him with a pious and well-affected mind; He was as well pleased with these sacrifices, as if he had really “smelt a sweet savour” or an agreeable perfume from the fire on the altar; and, in return for these sacrifices, He always bestowed on devout worshippers His promised blessings. And thus there was a mutual commerce between God and those who sacrificed to Him in such a

Gen. viii.
21; Lev. i.
9. 18; ii. 2.
9. 12; iii.
5, &c.

^r Τεῦχαν δὲ ἀπύροις ἵεροῖς Ἀλσος ἐν
ἀκρωτέλαι.—Pindar. Olymp.
Od. 7. [Ed. Tauchn. 1829.]

Nec longe inde collis Vulcanius, in quo qui Divinæ rei operantur, ligna vitea super aras struunt; nec ignis apponitur in hanc congeriem, cum propicias intulerint. Si adest Deus sacerorum probator, sarmenta, licet viridia, ignem sponte concipiunt, et nullo inflagrante halitu, a Numinis fit incendium. Solinus, cap. xi. Plutarch, in the Life of Numa, observes, that both

Greeks and Romans had the perpetual fire. [p. 66. b. Ed. Frankfurt. 1599.]

^s Εὔχεο νῦν, ὁ ξεῖνε, Ποσειδάνων ἄνακτε·

Τοῦ γάρ καὶ δαίτης ἡντήσατε, δεῦρο μολόντες.—Odys. Γ. ver. 43.

Αἰεὶ γὰρ τὸ πάρος γε θεοὶ φαίνονται ἐναργεῖς

‘Ημῖν, εὐθ’ ἔρδωμεν ἀγακλειτὰς ἔκατόμβας’

Δαίνυνται το παρ’ ἄμμι καθημένοι,
ἔνθα περ ἡμεῖς.—Odys. Η. ver.
201.

manner as He had appointed ; there was a continual exchange of homages and services received, and of graces and favours returned, between God and those who attended His altar as priests or suppliants. There was one particular circumstance required of all that offered sacrifice ; and that is, that it should be “seasoned with salt.” This was not only the practice of the Jews, but of the heathen too^t. Homer^u constantly mentions the seasoning of the sacrifice, and Moses explains this rite, when he charges every oblation of the meal-offering to be seasoned with salt, and adds, “Neither Lev. ii. 13. shalt thou suffer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meat-offering ;” for as salt was esteemed a symbol of friendship and alliance, so by this text is intimated to us, that God intended by the use of it in their sacrifices to perpetuate the covenant betwixt Himself and the Israelites. And when all this is rightly considered, it will appear evident beyond dispute, that sacrifices were always designed to be a means of continuing covenant and communion betwixt God and the worshippers.

It is certain the heathen carried this notion to an extravagant height, when they conceited that their gods did really take their share in what was offered to them, and perhaps some of the more carnal Jews had the same notion concerning the True God and the sacrifices offered to Him ; but this was a very gross and corrupt imagination. All that was in truth designed by God, in demanding some part or the whole sacrifice to be burnt on His altar, was only to shew His acceptance of their devotion and good-will in offering to Him of the best they had, and [His] rewarding their service by granting the boon which they asked. And if the use of fire

Extrava-gance of
the heathen
in this
point.

^t Plin. [Nat. Hist., lib. xxxi.] c. 7. Nulla (Sacra) conficiuntur sine mola salsa.

^u He not only speaks of the ὄβλοχται or ὄβλατοι in all his descriptions of sacrifice, one ingredient of which was always salt ; but he generally says σπλάγχν' ἐπάσαντο, by which I cannot but think he meant that ‘they salted the entrails.’ He cannot mean that they eat them, for he always mentions it before the roasting of them ; therefore I conceive he meant to inform us, that they sprinkled them with salt, and that therefore ἐπάσαντο comes

from πάσσωμαι, not from πάσσω, as is vulgarly believed ; and I am the more confirmed in this, when I observe that in relating the sacrifice of Achilles he omits the words σπλάγχν' ἐπάσαντο, and instead thereof says, Πάσσε δ' ἀλλος θείου.—Il. I. ver. 214. Mem. πάσσω makes πάσω in the future, and by consequence ἐπάσα in the first aorist active, ἐπασάμην in the middle voice. Mr. Pope's translation favours this sense.

“The thighs thus sacrific'd, and entrails drest,
Th' assistants part transfix, and roast the rest.”

C H A P. in sacrifice were only to denote God's acceptance, then it
I. will unavoidably follow, that fire cannot be necessary to the making a sacrifice, except it can be proved that God cannot accept of a sacrifice but by having some part of it burnt on His altar; which would not only give countenance to the false notion of the heathen, in supposing that their gods were really fed and refreshed with the fume of flesh, but would perfectly destroy the Sacrifice of Christ Jesus; for no part of the Sacrifice offered by Him was consumed by fire; therefore it is certain, a sacrifice may be accepted by God, though no fire be used in offering it; and that a sacrifice may be a means of procuring covenant and communion with God, without being burnt on the altar.

The Eucha-
rist serves
all these
ends.

And it is evident that all these ends are served by the Sacrifice of the Eucharist; and,

1. All the particular ends of sacrifice. For first, and secondly, all prayers and praises for special mercies are most properly offered to God in and by the Eucharist; because the Eucharist is the peculiar worship of the Christian Church, as will appear in the next chapter; and the primitive Christians practised it as such, and therefore used it in order to procure any singular blessing from God; as for instance, when a Bishop or Priest was ordained, or when any of them or of the faithful died or were married, the Eucharist was offered to God in hopes of obtaining proper blessings and mercies on the persons concerned. The Eucharist was most probably that "ministry," in which the Prophets at Antioch were engaged, when "the Spirit said unto them, Separate Me Paul and Barnabas," and when they laid their hands on these two eminent Ministers of Christ. St. Paul exhorts, "that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and *eucharists*, should be made for kings, and all that were in authority." It can scarce be thought reasonable, that St. Paul should charge Christians to give thanks for such prodigies of vice and tyranny as then swayed the Roman empire; much less, that thanks should be given for all men without distinction, for the enemies and persecutors of Christianity; but it was indeed proper to offer the Eucharist, the Christian Sacrifice, even for their most bitter enemies, that God might convert them or bring them to a better mind; that so Christians

Acts xiii.
1, 2.

1 Tim. ii.
1, 2.

“ might lead quiet and peaceable lives.” The very name ^{SECT.}
^{II.} ‘Eucharist’ implies it to be a Sacrifice of thanks for all real
 blessings. It is also, by virtue of the personal Sacrifice of
 Christ, a means of averting all evil. And as to the third
 particular end, viz., forgiveness of sin, our Saviour hath
 taught us that this is one special end of the Eucharist,
 when He calls the consecrated Bread and Wine, “ My Body
 given” [to God], and “ My Blood shed for the remission of
 sins.”

3. The general ends of sacrifice are all obtained by the Eucharist. For, first, all gifts brought to God’s Altar are an acknowledgment of His dominion; and Christ expects that His disciples should bring gifts to the Altar, and those, too, material gifts, such as may be left behind them while they go to be reconciled to their brethren. And Irenæus^x justly explains this as a gift given to our Great King, and by which we honour Him. And secondly, and thirdly, that the Christian Eucharist is a service by which we render God propitious to us, and by which we do covenant and communicate with Him, is what I suppose will be denied by none.

And the excellency of the Christian Sacrifice, above and beyond all others, does appear from this consideration, that though it be but one, and always offered in the same manner, yet it does at once serve all the ends of all the Levitical sacrifices; and we are actually to propose all these ends to ourselves, whenever we offer it. But there is one end in offering of the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, in which it differs from the generality of the ancient sacrifices. What this is, I am to shew in the next section.

CHAP. I. SECT. III.

One, and that the principal, end in offering the Sacrifice of the Eucharist is, to make a commemoration and representation of a greater Sacrifice; in this it differs from the generality of the ancient sacrifices.

THE first and principal design, which our Saviour proposed to Himself in the institution of the Eucharist was, that it

First end of
 the Eucha-
 rist is, a
 commemo-
 ration.

^x c, e, f, pp. 4, 5, Ap.

CHAP. I. might be a standing, perpetual memorial of the Sacrifice offered by Him for the sins of the world. He clearly teaches us this truth in those words, "Do," or offer, "this in remembrance of Me." Christ's offering Himself a Sacrifice for the sins of men and resigning Himself up to death for their sake was certainly, in itself considered, the most astonishing and remarkable fact that was ever yet accomplished from the foundation of the world. If we search all the records of time past and examine all history that was ever written, we shall find nothing to be compared to it. That He, Who is the Son of God, and Very God, should not only become Man, and take on Him the form of a servant, but also die the death of a common slave and malefactor, has something in it that does exceedingly surprise and raise the admiration of all that consider and believe it; and there is nothing related by any faithful writer, that can in any measure be equalled to it. Our imaginations can scarce reach any thing that can surpass it. Christ did and suffered this, purely for our good and benefit. He did by this means purchase for us the most inestimable blessings; I mean, pardon of our sins upon our repentance and proper application made to God to this purpose, and grace and salvation to all that come to God by Him. These are infinitely the greatest blessings that men are capable of receiving; and these were procured chiefly by the Sacrifice offered by Christ in His own Person. On both accounts this Sacrifice of Christ deserves to be remembered by us above and beyond all things that ever yet came to pass; not only as it is in itself the greatest and most worthy of our commemoration, but as it was intended wholly for our advantage, and as the advantage proceeding from thence to us is the most valuable and weighty of any other. Therefore it was fit and reasonable that this Sacrifice of His should always be kept fresh in the memory of those, for whose good it was intended. Therefore at the same time that Christ offered Himself a Sacrifice under the symbols of Bread and Wine, and the evening before He suffered on the Cross, He charged His Apostles to continue the memory of what He was now doing, and of what He was going to suffer, unto the end of the world. And as nothing does so well deserve to be remembered; so

our Saviour took the best care to have it remembered in the SECT.
III. most serious and solemn manner, by the most pious and worthy body of men that ever the world produced, that is, the Christian Church, in the most sublime ordinance of the most excellent religion that God was ever pleased to reveal to mankind.

It is a mistake to think, that we are only to call this to remembrance in our own minds or before men. We are certainly to shew forth Christ's death in the Sacrament, not only to one another, but to God. Not that we are to suspect that God would forget it, if we did not refresh His memory; but because, by commemorating the Sacrifice once offered by Christ, we use the means appointed by Him for obtaining the effects of His death. We offer the Sacramental Body and Blood of Christ to God, not only as a Sacrifice of praise for the merits of our Saviour's Passion, but in order to render all our prayers and petitions more acceptable at the throne of grace, especially our prayers for the pardon of our sins, for grace to amend our lives, and thereby to obtain a happy resurrection to eternal life. So that, indeed, the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, as it is a commemoration of Christ's offering Himself in person, does answer all the ends of the ancient sacrifices; forasmuch as the merits of His death are the most prevailing motive we can use with God, to render all our services acceptable to Him, to procure forgiveness of our sins and the continuance of all spiritual favours, especially those of our covenanting and communicating with God. And as the offering of any creatures to God is an acknowledgement of God's dominion and other attributes; so the presenting to Him the Sacramental Bread and Wine, as the figures of Christ's Body and Blood, is a very proper way and a method of Christ's own choosing, whereby to own and recognize God as the first Author and Founder of our Redemption as well as all other blessings we enjoy.

It cannot be said of the generality of the sacrifices of the ancients, that they were commemorations or representations of some other more ancient and excellent sacrifices; however, they were not so in the intentions of those who offered them. I doubt not but all the acceptable sacrifices offered by the Patriarchs and Israelites before and under the Law were, in Ancient
sacrifices
received
their value
from that
of Christ.

C H A P. God's secret intention, types and figures of the Great Sacrifice of Christ; but it does not appear that the generality of those who offered them were sensible of this. The chief design they had in sacrificing to God was, to procure or render thanks for some mercy or favour; that they saw Christ in the bullocks and lambs which they killed in honour to God, we have no evidence; nor did God ever inform them that the beasts, slain every day in the tabernacle or temple, were types of Christ or of any other sacrifice past or to come.

Passover,
the only
sacrifice of
commemo-
ration to
the Jews.

*Exod. xiii.
26, 27.*

There was indeed one very singular providence, and the greatest, I think, that ever happened, except our redemption by Christ Jesus; and that was the deliverance of the Israelites from their bondage in Egypt, with the miracles which went before and followed it. This providence God was pleased to have yearly commemorated by slaying a lamb for every family, and offering it as a sacrifice to God, and consuming it in a religious feast. And this was indeed a commemorative sacrifice, both in the design of God, and of the Israelites by whom it was offered. Nay, and it seems that the lambs slain every year in after-ages were representations of the lambs slain at first, the evening before they went out of the land of Egypt; for God commands the people, when they were in future ages asked by their children, "What mean you by this service?" to answer, "It is the Lord's Passover, Who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt." By which it appears, that all the lambs that were sacrificed on this festival, though many hundred years after the first institution, were commemorations and representations of the sacrifice of the Passover, which was first offered in Egypt; and it does not appear, that they had any other sacrifice of this nature.

Many Gen-
tile sacri-
fices com-
memora-
tions, but
not repre-
sentations.

The Gentiles had many commemorative sacrifices, as many as were offered by the Greeks and Romans every year as monuments of gratitude for signal benefits and deliverances. But I have not as yet met with any of these commemorative sacrifices, in which that which was offered every year was intended to represent the first original sacrifice offered, when the festival was new founded; such as were the yearly lambs at the Passover, in relation to the lambs offered in Egypt.

Yet it cannot be denied, that the Gentiles had representa-

tive sacrifices. We are assured, that the Egyptians^y, Greeks^z, SECT. III.
if not Romans^a, used to make images, in paste or dough, of such creatures as they would have sacrificed, if they could have procured them. Pythagoras^b, and his scholar Empedocles, offered bullocks made of paste or other ingredients, because they were enemies to the practice of slaying animals.

In fine, it is not to be proved, I believe, by any monuments of the Jews or other people now remaining, that either of them had any notion of a sacrifice, whose virtue depended upon the merits of some more excellent sacrifice formerly offered; though it is evident, that the Jews had one sacrifice of commemoration, and that their sacrifice of commemoration was a representation of that first offered in the land of Egypt. And though I do not observe any sacrifices of the Gentiles, which were both commemorative and representative; yet they had some commemorative, others representative, though not of another thing actually before sacrificed.

It is certain, Bread and Wine, by virtue of the Divine institution, may be as effectual to procure the Divine favour as the blood of the most valuable animal; for no rational man will say, that the life of a beast is, in itself considered, an equivalent for the life of a man, much less for his soul; and bread and wine, by virtue of God's appointment, may be an atonement for sin. We are sure, under the Law, that, if he who had sinned was not able to bring a lamb or two turtle-doves or pigeons, the tenth part of an ephah of fine flour was sufficient for a sin-offering; and with this the priest was "to make an atonement for him, as touching his sin that he hath sinned." And Pliny^c, the learned heathen, tells us, "The gods

Bloody sacrifices can no more be an atonement by their own virtue, than unbloody ones.

Lev. v. 11
—13.

^y Οἱ δὲ πένητες αὐτῶν [Αἰγυπτίων]
ἢ π' ἀσθενεῖται βίου σταύρινα πλάσαντες
τοὺς, καὶ ὀπτήσαντες ταῦτα, θύονται.
—[Herodot. Euterpe, c. 47.]

^z See Suidas in the word *βοῦς*, and Dr. Potter's Greek Antiq., vol. ii. pp. 214. 219.

^a Servius's note upon the words Virgine cæsa, Æneid. ii. ver. 116, is as follows; Non vere, sed ut videbatur. Et sciendum in sacris simulata pro veris accipi; unde, quum de animalibus, quæ difficile inveniuntur, est sacrificandum, de pane vel cera fiunt, et pro veris accipiuntur. See him also on the words—latices simulato fontis Averni.

Æn. iv.

^b See Sect. I. of this chapter. Athenæus has the following words concerning Empedocles; Ἐμπεδοκλῆς δ' ὁ Ἀκραγαντῖνος ἵπποις Ὄλύμπια νικήσας, Πιθαγορικὸς ἀν., καὶ ἐμψύχων ἀπεχόμενος, ἐκ σμύρνης καὶ λιβανωτοῦ καὶ τῶν πολυτελεστάτων ἄρωμάτων βοῦν ἀναπλάσας, διένειμε τοὺς εἰς τὴν πανήγυριν ἀπαντήσασιν.—[Lib. i. p. 3. Ed. Casaubon. Lugd. 1612.]

^c Nec minus propitii (Dii) erant mola salsa supplicantibus; immo vero, ut palam est, placatiiores.—Nat. Hist., lib. xii. c. 18.

CHAP. I. were as well pleased, nay, better, with those that made their supplications with a seasoned cake," than if they had offered more costly sacrifices. If God had pleased to have made mere natural bread in all times and places an expiation for sin, there is no reason to doubt but it would have been effectual to this purpose. He that in one case appointed an offering of meal as a sacrifice for sin, might have appointed it in all other cases; and therefore it can be resolved into nothing

Heb. ix. 22. but the will and pleasure of God, that "almost all things were by the Law purged with blood, and without shedding of blood was no remission." The Apostle does not suppose that blood was in itself necessary or sufficient to do this; and if the blood of animals could in its own virtue atone for the sins of men, I suppose any other sacrifice had been needless, even that of Christ Jesus Himself. All that St. Paul says is, that blood purged all things 'by the Law;' and therefore not by its own worth or nature, but by God's appointment.

All acceptable sacrifices receive their virtue from that of Christ.

I am entirely in the sentiment of all Divines, both ancient and modern, Protestants and Papists, who agree in this, to the best of my observation, that all the sacrifices before and under the Law received the atoning virtue they had, from the will of God Who instituted and accepted them, not in regard to their own value or virtue, but in consideration of the Great and most meritorious Sacrifice, which was to be offered by Christ in the fulness of time; and that therefore these sacrifices were types of Christ in the purpose and intention of God, though not revealed to all that offered these sacrifices: and that therefore all acceptable sacrifices agree in this, that they are representations of the Grand one, which was offered by Christ in His own Person.

And of all representative sacrifices, the Eucharist is certainly the most excellent.

The Eucharist is clearly discerned to be what it is.

1. Because the Bread and Wine in the Sacrament are, or ought to be, known by all who use them, to be representations of the Great Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Christ; whereas the sacrifices, under the Law and before it, were not generally known and discerned by those who offered them, to be types of Christ.

And was first and principally

2. The first and main design of the Eucharist is, to be a remembrance of the personal Sacrifice of Christ; whereas

the beasts offered under the Law were first and chiefly intended by God to be services performed to Him by His people, whereby to express their wants and desires, and procure a supply and relief of them ; and they were types of Christ only by a second and more remote intention of Almighty God.

3. The Eucharist is the only Sacrifice, in which that of Christ is represented since it was offered, and to them who live under the Gospel, and is therefore clearly discerned by those who offer it. If the Jews had been informed, that their sacrifices represented a more excellent one to come ; yet their apprehension of its signification and efficacy must have been more obscure than ours now is, because their notions of the Messias Himself were but imperfect in comparison of that plain view of Him, which the Gospel gives us.

4. This is the only representation of Christ's Body and Blood, which is That Body and Blood in power and effect ; for the Bread and Wine in the Eucharist are such types, as that he who eats and drinks them unworthily is " guilty of the Body and Blood of Christ ;" which can be said of none of the other ancient sacrifices. They are not such poor and sorry figures as those which the Gentiles offered to their gods, which represented an animal only in their outward form and shape. They are the Body and Blood of Christ in inward life and spirit, as I have elsewhere^d shewed at large.

CHAP. I. SECT. IV.

Of the agreement and disagreement of the Eucharist with the sacrifices of the ancients, as to the substance therein offered.

THE gross substance of our Sacrifice is known to be Bread and Wine. Some can hardly be persuaded, that any thing deserves the name of a sacrifice, but some creature that hath life and blood ; whereas the very first sacrifice mentioned in Scripture was of the fruit of the ground, and therefore consisted probably of corn, grapes, or such like materials. St. Paul^e expressly calls this a sacrifice ; and the ancient Greek

^d See Part I. pp. 151—159, and Gen. iv. 3.
169—204.

^e Compare Acts vii. 42 with Amos v. 25.

CHAP. I. Translators, whose phrases and expressions the writers of the New Testament do most commonly follow, do, not only in the fourth chapter of Genesis but almost perpetually, give to an offering made of such fruits or of meal, the name and title of a Sacrifice ; nay, St. Stephen or St. Luke or both do give the name of Sacrifices to meal-offerings, and at the same time call the bloody oblations ‘ slain beasts.’ Christ Jesus Himself, according to St. Mark^f, calls the meal-offering a sacrifice ; for those words of His, “ Every sacrifice shall be salted with salt,” are allowed by all learned men to mean no more nor no less than what was said by Moses, “ Every oblation of the meat-offering shall be seasoned with salt ;” as the LXX express it. Both Moses and St. Paul express the offering made by Cain, by the same word that they do the offering of Abel, and they were both equally Sacrifices, though not equally acceptable. The chief fault of Cain’s sacrifice was, not that it consisted of fruit, but that it was not seasoned with faith ; and the great commendation of Abel’s sacrifice was, not that it consisted of living creatures, but that it abounded in that quality which Cain’s wanted^g. The learned Grotius asserts that Abel’s sacrifice was an unbloody one. Our translation indeed says^h, “ Abel brought of the firstlings of his flock, and of the fat thereof ;” but by ‘the firstlings’ we may understand, not the first-born or best lambs, but the first-fruits or products of it, that is, the wool and milk. And the same Hebrew word, diversely pointed, signifies both ‘fat’ and ‘milk.’ And Josephus as well as Grotius took it for ‘milk’ in this place. And both wool and milkⁱ were

^f Compare Levit. ii. 13 with Mark ix. 49.

^g Josephus indeed was of opinion, that “ the fruits of the earth,” being forced from it by the covetous mind of Cain, for this reason were unacceptable to God ; but this fancy of his casts a reproach upon husbandry, which has always been esteemed the most useful and innocent employ.

^h The Hebrew בָּנָה signifies ‘first-fruit,’ as well as ‘first-born,’ Exod. xxiii. 16; Levit. ii. 14; Mich. vii. 1. בָּלַת signifies ‘milk’ (as well as ‘fat’), and Josephus so understood it. Antiq., lib. i. It is true, as it now stands pointed, it signifies ‘fat ;’ but Grotius well knew that the points are but of yesterday.

ⁱ That wool was offered in sacrifice we have the following authorities, viz. Pausanias, in Arcadicis, c. 42. [vol. iii. p. 436.] Ταῦτης μάλιστα ἔγώ τῆς Δῆμητρος ἔνεκα ἐς Φιγαλίαν ἀφικόμην, καὶ ἔνυσα τῇ θεῷ, καθὸς καὶ οἱ ἐπιχώριοι νομίζουσιν, οὐδὲν, τὰ δὲ ἀπὸ τῶν δένδρων τῶν ἡμέρων, τά τε ἄλλα, καὶ ἀμπέλου καρπὸν, καὶ μελισσῶν τε κηρῖα, καὶ ἔριων τὰ μὴ ἐργασίαν πω ἥκοντα, ἀλλὰ ἔτι ἀνάπλεα τοῦ οἰστόπου, ή τιθέασιν ἐπὶ τὸν βωμὸν φύκοδομημένουν πρὸ τοῦ σπηλαίου· θέντες δὲ καταχέουσιν αὐτῶν ἔλαιον. ταῦτα ἴδιωτας τε ἀνδράσι καὶ ἀνὰ πᾶν ἔτος τῷ κοινῷ καθέπτηκεν ἐς τὴν θυσίαν· ἵερα δὲ σφίσιν ἔστιν ἡ δρῶσα, σὺν δὲ αὐτῇ καὶ τῶν ἱεροθυτῶν καλουμένων διεώτατος.

frequently offered by the ancients. The Nomades^k offered SECT.
IV. the tip of a sheep's ear, and Herodotus calls this a sacrifice. I dare not depend on Grotius's arguings, especially because "the blood of Abel," in the Epistle to the Hebrews, seems Heb. xii. 24. to signify the sacrifice offered by him; and if so, then his sacrifice must have consisted of living creatures; but my reader perhaps may be of another sentiment.

Some learned men suppose, that Noah first offered cakes Of Noah's offering cakes. in sacrifice, and was from thence by the heathen called Ogyges^l. What is more certain is, that "Melchisedec^m brought forth bread and wine," and did this, as "priest of the most High God," in order to his blessing Abraham. And it is certain, that sacrifice did usually go before solemn benedic-tions.

He, who looks into the Levitical Law, may at first sight imagine, that the main of the Jewish sacrifices were of the bloody sort, because much more is said of the offering beasts than of the meal-offerings; but the reason why so many words are used in relation to the bloody sacrifices is, because there were many more rites and circumstances necessary to be observed in them than in the other, which were a more simple and plain sort of sacrifice; yet we have just reason to believe, that there were many more meal-offerings than beasts brought to the Jewish altar. For in the first place, no bullockⁿ, sheep, or goat (except for sin or trespass), was to be presented to God without a meal-offering and drink-offering; and, in case of sin or trespass, all that were not

Sophocles, in his Πολύειδος now not extant; but the following words are preserved by Porphyry in his second book De Abstinentia, p. [65.]

**Ην μὲν γὰρ οἶδος μαλάδος, ἦν δὲ ἀμπέλον*

Σπουδὴ τε καὶ βάξ εὖ τεθησαυρισμένη.

κ. τ. λ.

Of the offering milk, Virgil gives sufficient proof, viz., Eclog. v., where Menalcas the shepherd says,

Ecce duas tibi, Daphni, duas, altaria Phœbo;

Pocula bina novo spumantia lacte quotannis

Craterasque duos statuam tibi pinguis olivi.

And Eclog. vii. Thyrsis says,

Sinum lactis, et hæc tibi liba, Priape, quotannis

Expectare sat est: custos es pauperis horti.

Horat. Tellurem porco, Silvanum lacte piabant. [Lib. ii. Ep. i. v. 143.]

^k Herodot. Melpomene, c. 188. Οὐσίαι δὲ τοῖσι νομάσι εἰσὶν αἱδεῖς ἐπεὰν τοῦ ὄτδε ἀπάρξωνται τοῦ κτήνεος, βιττέονται ὑπὲρ τὸν δόμον.

And Virgil makes Corydon offer a pair of hart's-horns.

Sætosi caput hoc apri tibi, Delia, parvus

Et ramosa Micon vivacis cornua cervi.—Eclog. vii.

^l From the Hebrew נִזְבֵּן, see Dr. Spencer, De Leg. Heb. p. 659.

^m Gen. xiv. 18. See Unbloody Sacrifice, Part I. p. [123-134.]

ⁿ Numb. xv., and see Ainsworth's Notes.

CHAP.
I.
Lev. v. 2.

able to bring a beast or turtle-dove are allowed to bring an offering of fine flour ; and one may safely affirm, that more sacrifices of flour must have been offered for sin than of living creatures, because the poor are the greatest part of all nations. Further, it deserves our consideration, that all the sacrifices mentioned in the three first chapters of Leviticus were either freewill offerings for blessings desired, or vows for blessings already received. The first chapter treats of burnt-offerings, the second of the *mincha* or meal-offering, the third of the peace-offerings. It is plain to any one that reads the three chapters with attention, that it was left to the discretion of the offerer, whether his sacrifice should be a beast, a bird, or a meal-offering ; and if it were a beast, whether he would have it offered as a burnt-offering, or a peace-offering, (only if one animal were wholly burnt, another must be added as a peace-offering for the feast,) but he might save the charge of both by a meal-offering. And I leave it to my reader to judge, whether in most cases this latter course was not taken ; but if he chose to offer an animal, yet still the meal-offering must be added to it, as has before been shewed ; and though the meal-offering were a proper sacrifice without the beast, and might be offered by itself alone, yet the bullock, sheep, or goat, could not be offered in sacrifice without the *mincha* or meal-offering. So that, upon the whole, I think it evident that there were more *minchas* offered than beasts ; and in all cases the *mincha* might be offered without a beast, but the beast could not be offered without the *mincha* or meal-offering, except it were for sin and trespass. And though our translators call the beast or bird only, ‘a sacrifice ;’ yet the ancient Greek Translators, whom our Saviour and His Apostles in this respect follow^o, did not so.

And Gen-
tiles.

After the practice of burning beasts in sacrifice prevailed among the Greeks and Latins, yet no beast was offered without the salted cake^p ; and all bloody sacrifices were looked upon as innovations and as an unnatural practice by some of the acutest of them. Pythagoras was for his “unbloody sacrifice.” Plutarch speaks of king Numa and his

^o Compare Lev. ii. 13 with Mark ix. 49, Gen. iv. 4 with Heb. xi. 4, and

Amos v. 25 with Acts vii. 42.

^p See Sect. II. of this chapter.

old Romans as his disciples in this particular, and approves S E C T .
and applauds them on this account. Some, to bring the IV.
very notion of a sacrifice into contempt, have asserted that it was the invention of the ancient ignorant part of mankind ; but one would think that a way of worshipping God, which was chosen by so eminent a philosopher, might challenge some regard among those who attribute so much to reason and philosophy. It is evident from a citation before in the margin, taken from Pausanias, that this great man favoured the same opinion ; and at another place^a, speaking of Cecrops the first king of Athens, he observes, that he sacrificed nothing that had life, but only a certain sort of cakes that were still known at Athens ; whereas on the contrary, Lycaon offered an infant to Jupiter. Porphyry^r mentions a law of Triptolemus, charging the Athenians to honour the gods with fruits, and not to slay animals. And sacrifices consisting of all sorts of fruit are mentioned by Sophocles^s and others.

Both Jews and Gentiles had also their drink-offerings or libations with most of their sacrifices. The drink-offerings of the Jews are said by most to have consisted of mere wine or the pure juice of the grape. I am not much concerned to inquire into the truth of this ; but there seems to be no other reason for believing it, but that no mention is made in the Law of any other liquor to be mingled with the wine on this occasion ; and I only crave leave to say, that I think this is not a sufficient ground to prove, that no water was put into it ; for^t wine mixed with water is still called wine by the ancients, and the warm parts of the world, such as Judaea, produce such strong wines that no sober men used to drink them without a dash of water. However, it is certain, the Gentiles in their drink-offerings often mingled oil or honey

Drink-offerings used by Jews and Gentiles, and probably of mixed liquors.

^a Ο μὲν γὰρ (Κέκρωψ) —δότοις ἔχει ψυχῆν τούτων μὲν ἡξώσεν οὐδὲν θῦσαι, πεμπάτα δὲ ἐπιχώρια ἐπὶ τοῦ βαμοῦ καθηγεῖσεν, ἀ πελάνους καλοῦσιν ἔτι καὶ εἰς ἡμᾶς Ἀθηναῖοι. Δικάων δὲ ἐπὶ τὸν βαμὸν τοῦ Λυκαίου Δίὸς βρέφος ἔνεγκεν ἄνθραπον, καὶ ἔθυσε τὸ βρέφος. You have the description of these cakes in the Scholiast on Euripides in Helena, p. 296 of Barnes's edition. [Cantab. 1694.]

^r Φασὶ δὲ καὶ Τριπτόλεμον Ἀθηναῖος

νομοθετῆσαι. καὶ τῶν νόμων αὐτοῦ τρεῖς ἔτι Ξενοκράτης δι φιλότοφος λέγει διαμένειν Ἐλευσῖν τούτῳ. Γονεῖς τιμᾶν. Θεοὺς καρποῖς ἀγάλλειν. Ζῶα μὴ σίνεοθαι.—De Abst., lib. iv. p. [178.]

^s Sophocles' πάγκαρπα θύματα are mentioned in Electra, ver. 635.

^t Plut. [Conjugialia Praecepta, tom. ii. p. 140. Ed. Paris. 1624.] Τὸ κράμα, καίτοι πλείονος μετέχον θύσατος, οἶνον καλοῦμεν.

CHAP. I. with their wine or water^u. Bishop Potter^x observes from Eustathius, that the Greeks never mixed wine and water together in their libations. Doctor Spencer^y asserts the contrary; and *Æschylus*^z mentions water and many other ingredients in their drink-offerings, but then these were intended for the souls of deceased heroes. If the Jews did commonly offer pure wine, yet Doctor Outram^a cites R. Levi Ben Gerson for saying, that at the feast of tabernacles they offered water to God, in order to procure rain from God for the approaching seed-time. And Mr. Ainsworth^b, from Maimonides and other Rabbies, informs us, that it was the practice of the Jews on the last day of the feast of Tabernacles to draw water out of the pool of Siloam, and to carry it with great triumph into the temple, and to pour it out at the altar, together with the drink-offering of the day; and several learned men suppose that our Saviour alludes to this custom, when on the last great day of this feast He says, “He that believeth on Me, out of his belly shall flow streams of living water.” Upon the whole, it does not seem contrary to the notions either of the Jews or heathen, to mingle water with wine in their sacrifices.

The ancients, though they differed in the substances offered, yet agreed that they were all sacrifices.

Enough has been said to shew that things without life or soul may be true sacrifices, if we may rely upon them who best understood the notions, languages, and practice of the ancients. They who read the Bible without prejudice may from thence learn, that a meal-offering was a sacrifice, even according to the language of Scripture and the sentiments of the heathen writers; that, even according to the Levitical Law, an offering of flour was a sacrifice for the expiation of sin; and I persuade myself, that no rational man would

^u Τὰ μὲν ἀρχαῖα τῶν ιερῶν νηφάλια παρὸ πολλοῖς ἦν· νηφάλια δὲ ἐστὶν τὰ ὕδροσπορδᾶ· τὰ δὲ μετὰ ταῦτα μελίσπονδα—εἴτε ἔλαιοσπορδᾶ· τέλος δὲ ἐπὶ πᾶσιν, τὰ ὕστερα γεγονότα οἰνόσπονδα.—De Abst., lib. ii. p. [66.]

^x Greek Antiquities, vol. i. p. 212.

^y De Legib. Heb., p. 311. He there cites the response of an oracle (without mentioning his author), which seems to prove this, viz., Οἶνον, καὶ γάλα βάλλε, καὶ ὑδατος ἄγλασον εἶδος.

^z —— πρεμνενεῖς χοᾶς

Βόος τὸν ἀφ' ἀγνῆς λευκὸν εὔποτον γάλα,

Τῆς τὸν ἀνθεμουργοῦ στάγμα παμφαὲς μέλι,
Λιβάσιν ὕδρηλαῖς παρθένου πηγῆς
μετὰ,
Ποτὸν παλαιᾶς ἀμπέλου γάνος τοδὲ,
Ξανθῆς ἔλατας καρπὸς εὐώδης παρά,
Ἄνθη τε πλεκτὰ — Pers. ver.
565, &c.

Homer. Odys. A. ver. 26.

— χοὴν χεόμην πᾶσιν νεκύεσσιν
Πρῶτα μελικρήτῳ, μετέπειτα δὲ ἡδεῖς
οἶνῳ.

Τὸ τρίτον αὖθ' ὑδατί —

^a De Sacrificiis, p. 225.

^b See Ainsworth on Levit. xxiii. 40.

argue that bread could not be a sacrifice, though the Levitical Law had allowed no such sacrifice to be offered to the True God. The Holy Scripture everywhere gives this name 'sacrifice' to the worship paid by the heathen to their idols. It would be endless to recount the places, where the Prophets charge the people of Israel with sacrificing to false gods, on high hills and under green trees and in the high places ; and, in the New Testament, what was "sacrificed to idols" is forbidden by the Apostles to be eaten by any Christian ; by forbidding what had thus been offered to be eaten, because it had been sacrificed, they unavoidably allow those sacrifices to be real sacrifices, though offered to false gods. And indeed this was the fault of the heathen, that they paid an honour to idols, which was due to none but the One God : if it had not been sacrifice, the honour paid to them had not been that Divine honour, which God claimed as His peculiar property. On the other side, the most furious heathen idolaters never denied the offerings made by the Jews to be true sacrifices, though they differed very much from their own ; not only in this, that they were offered to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Whom they did not worship, but as to the substance of the thing that was offered. Pharaoh did over and again own that the service to be paid by the Israelites was 'sacrifice,' though Moses had informed him that they were to sacrifice animals, which the Egyptians worshipped, and to which therefore Pharaoh himself probably paid a Divine honour. The Jews abhorred the swine above any other animal ; they not only forbore to sacrifice, but to eat or touch it ; and yet it does not appear that they ever denied it to be a sacrifice, when offered on the heathen altars, as it was very frequently. Honey was expressly forbidden, by their Law, to be burnt on the altar of the True God ; on the other side^d, the heathen looked on it as a most proper ingredient of sacrifice, as^e an entertainment most fit for their

Exod. viii.
8. 26. 20.

^c Εἰδωλόθυτα, Acts xv. 20. 29.

^d Porphyry, De Abstinentia, lib. ii. ubi supra, says of Sophocles, that διαγράφων τὴν θεοφιλήθυσίαν, "when he would describe a sacrifice luscious to the gods," he does it thus; and after the mention of the fleece of wool, and grapes, and raisins (for which I before

cited him), and the oblation of fruits and cakes and oil, he crowns all with honey-comb in these words,

———— καὶ τὸ ποικιλώτατον
Ξουθῆς μελίσσης κηροπλαστὸν ὄργανον. [p. 65.]

———— Θεῶν ἡδεῖαν ἐδωδήγη.

CHAP. I.—
gods. The heathen sacrificed several other animals, which God Almighty never thought worthy to be offered on His altar, as the horse^f, the dog, the cock or hen, and several sorts of fish; but the Jews did never from hence conclude, that these were not real sacrifices. Croesus king of Lydia, who was excellently well versed in the religion of the age and country in which he lived, and that had a correspondence with Solon and Pittacus, if not with Bias, who were men most eminent for their wisdom in those ancient times, offered a most valuable and singular sacrifice; he made a vast pile of golden and silver beds, golden vials, and costly purple garments; he set the pile on fire, and melted down the solid metals, and burned the other materials to ashes. It must be confessed, that the substance of which this sacrifice consisted was unusual and extraordinary; yet Herodotus^g, who gives us this relation, not only gives it the title of ‘a sacrifice,’ but tells us to what religious purposes the ingots which proceeded from this conflagration were applied, and that he obliged all his subjects to follow his example in offering whatever they had of this sort, as a sacrifice to the god which they worshipped. The Philistines, when they found that God’s judgments were upon them on account of their detaining the ark in their custody, are directed to offer golden emerods and golden mice, that is, massy gold formed into the shape of those tumours which the emerods had caused, and of those little animals, with which they had been infested; and to these oblations they give that very name, which in the Law of Moses is ascribed to a she-lamb or she-goat offered at God’s altar for the expiation of guilt, I mean, they call it a trespass-offering; and the holy penman does not at all stick to give it the same title. It was not indeed a Jewish sacrifice nor offered according to their rites, and it consisted of a substance which God had never commanded to be offered at the altar by the revelation made to Moses; but the writer of the books of Samuel had not his mind cramped with the narrow notions of the men of this age, who can think nothing a sacrifice but what was prescribed by the Law of Moses. St. Peter tells us, that these “holy men

¹ Sam. vi.
^{5, 6.} 57.

^f See Dr. Potter’s Greek Antiq., vol. i. p. 216, 217.
^g Herodot., lib. i. c. 50. 27. 30.

wrote as they were moved by the Holy Ghost ;” and therefore the Holy Ghost teaches us, that whatever is offered by men for the expiation of guilt, according to the best light and knowledge which Providence affords them, may be justly styled a sin-offering, though it be very different in substance as well as circumstance from the sacrifices required of the Jews. Indeed, I am mistaken, if this be not the first age in which men have denied the title of a sacrifice to any thing else but what has blood and life. I conceive all the old learned world allowed those to be sacrifices, which were offered as such in any nation, how disagreeable soever they were to those which were used by themselves. Porphyry, indeed, being a violent enemy to the killing and eating of animals, can scarce afford the name of “sacrifice” to bullocks, sheep, and goats, slain in honour to the Divine Majesty. He is the only instance that I have met with of a man of learning, before our own age, who does not freely allow the name of “sacrifice” to any creature, whether with life or without life, solemnly offered at an altar. Some of our age have run into the contrary extreme, and would have a sacrifice of bread and wine to be thought none at all ; and by this means they must deny the ancient Greeks and Romans, the Pythagoreans and some of the most acute Gentile writers, to be competent judges of the meaning of the word “sacrifice ;” for, certainly, they who practised “unbloody sacrifices” thought them to be real ones ; they are such sacrifices as were offered even in the life-time of Adam. The use I would make of this is, to convince my reader that an offering of bread and wine may be as true a sacrifice as a bullock or goat ; for if the fruits of the earth, cakes or honey-combs, gold and silver, wool and milk, and, in a word, all the valuable and useful products of nature have ever been esteemed sacrifices, when offered according to the received rules and laws of religion, as well as cattle, fowls, and fish ; then no reason can be conceived, why Bread and Wine, offered on the Christian Altar, should be looked upon as incapable of being a true Sacrifice, and that they who assert the contrary do oppose the universal judgment both of Jews and Gentiles, of the holy penmen of Scripture, and of our blessed Saviour.

As the bloody sacrifices of the Law were types of Christ,

*They, who
deny bread
to be a sa-
crifice, con-
tradict the
ancients,
and even
Christ.*

C H A P.

I.

Meal-offering,
a type
of the Eu-
charist.

Mal. i. 11.

so the meal-offering was a type of the Eucharist ; and as such it is mentioned by the Prophet Malachi, who foretells, that “from the rising of the sun, even unto the going down of the same, God’s Name shall be great among the Gentiles, and in every place incense shall be offered unto His Name, and a pure offering.” The last word of this text is in the Hebrew the same, which is every where used to signify “an offering of meal,” or “flour ;” and it is certain that he could not mean the Levitical meal-offering, for that was never intended to be offered from “the rising of the sun to the going down of the same.” This is a character which belongs only to the Christian Eucharist, which was designed by God to be offered “every where,” by which means God’s Name was to be great among the Gentiles ; for the main body of the Christian Church, from the time of the Apostles to this very day, were and are Gentiles, such as are not of the stock of Abraham, according to the flesh. Nor was this prophecy of the meal-offering to be made among the Gentiles to the True God ever fulfilled otherwise than by God’s causing the Christian Eucharist to be celebrated wherever the Gospel has prevailed.

Difference
between the
meal-offer-
ing and
Eucharist.

Lev. ii. 2.
13; ii. 5. 10;
vii. 13;
xxiii. 17;
ii. 14.

Lev. ii. 2;
v. 2.

The reader is mistaken, if he thinks I assert that the meal-offering of the Jews was the same sacrifice in substance with the Bread and Wine in the Communion. It was an offering that was the most like it of any other, and therefore was the most apt type in which the Prophet could represent it. As therefore incense does, in this text of Malachi, typify prayer and praise, so does the meal-offering the Bread in the Communion. The Jewish meal-offering was a compound of fine flour, oil, and salt ; no leaven was to be put into it, except it were for a thanksgiving or for the first-fruits, in which last case it was not to consist of ground-meal or flour but of ears of corn dried by the fire. Frankincense was always to be put on it, save when it was a sin-offering ; then it was to be without either oil or frankincense. By this it appears that the meal-offering was a very proper type of the Bread in the Communion, not only as it was without life or blood, but as it consisted chiefly of flour or at least parched corn ; but it was in no other particular the same with the Eucharist ; for I suppose no one of our Church will say that oil, salt, or

leaven are necessary ingredients of the Sacramental Bread ; SECT.
IV.
but all of them may either be put in or left out at discretion. There was indeed a dispute in the middle ages of the Church between the Greeks and Latins, whether the Eucharist ought to be administered in leavened or unleavened bread ; but the wisest of each contending party have long since agreed, that this ought to be left to the custom and discretion of every Church.

In another respect, the meal-offering of the Jews was a Meal-offering a type
of the Eu-
charist, as
most holy.
Lev. ii. 3. very agreeable type of the Christian Eucharist ; I mean, as it was “a thing most holy of the sacrifices of the Lord,” which is a title never given to any thing offered at the altar, Lev. viii. 10
—14. excepting the meal-offering and the sacrifice for sin and trespass. No Jew might eat any part of it, save the priests Lev. xxi. 22. only, even when it was offered with a peace-offering ; though the greatest part of the carcase of the beast was to be eaten by the persons who offered it : yet the meal-offering was the priests’ portion ; therefore it is called “the bread of God,” Lev. xxi. 22. which was a title peculiar to that part of the sacrifice which was burnt on the altar, or which was reserved for the eating of the priests. It was therefore a most fit type of the Eucharist, which is the most sacred and solemn institution which God ever vouchsafed to men. And the greatest dignity of the Christian people consists in this, that they are admitted to eat “the bread of God,” to partake of that which is “most holy,” as the Jewish people never were ; and, in this particular, all Christian men are priests in such a sense as the Jewish laity never were, though both the Christian and Exod. xix. 6; 1 Pet. ii. 9. Jewish people are equally honoured with the title of Priests.

There is no certain evidence, whether the drink-offerings Wine offered
in the
heathen
sacrifices,
and some
reserved for
the feast. of the Jews were wholly poured out on the altar, or whether some part were reserved for the priests or even for the people ; but this is sure, that in the Gentile sacrifices some portion of the wine offered to their gods was generally kept to be drunk by the offerers. The idolatrous Israelites sat down to drink as well as eat, and St. Paul alleges this as a proof of their idolatry in these words, “Neither be ye idolaters, as were 1 Cor. x. 7.
21. some of them, as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink ;” and he, in the same chapter, intimates that the same practice still remained among the heathen of that age, and

CHAP. therefore calls the wine drunk by them in the idol-temples,
 I. — “the cup of devils,” as having been offered to them; therefore Esther is represented by the Apocryphal writers as justifying herself, that she had not “drunk the wine of the drink-offerings;” for it should seem that king Ahasuerus’s and Haman’s table was served with wine brought from the temples; or else the practice of making libations to their gods, and by this means making all the wine they drank at their feasts an oblation, by pouring out some part of it in honour to their false gods, is supposed by this writer to have prevailed in the court of this prince; and that this was no fiction, we may
 Esther xiv. 17. learn from the sacred book of Daniel; for this Prophet “requested that he might not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat, nor with the wine which the king drank;” for it can scarce be conceived how the king’s wine could defile Daniel, but by having been offered to idols, by which means it became an abomination to all true Israelites. See further proof for the use of wine in sacrifice in Grotius, on Matt. xxvi.

Wine mixed with water of old in the Eucharist.

I have before in this section observed, that though many learned men believe that the Jewish drink-offerings were wine unmixed with water, yet there is no certainty in this point; and I have proved that the Gentiles offered wine and water together. This I observe, in order to answer a cavil made by some, as if water with wine were incapable of being offered in sacrifice according to the received doctrine both of Jews and Gentiles. Now it is certain, that the primitive Christians did offer water mingled with wine in the Eucharistical Cup. Justin Martyr^h, Irenæusⁱ, Clemens Alexandrinus^k, and Cyprian^l, do expressly mention it; and though we know there were several heretics that used water only in the Sacrament, yet we have not heard of any, in the most primitive times, that used wine alone either in the Church or without it. And this practice remained universal for the first fifteen hundred years after Christ in all Churches except-

Matt. xxvi. 18. ing that of Armenia. It is certain, three of the Evangelists
 29; Mark xiv. 25; Luke xxii. 18. do intimate that the Cup offered by Christ was wine, or “the fruit of the vine;” and since the Scripture makes no mention

^b a. p. 2. Ap.
ⁱ ff. p. 6. Ap.

^k b. p. 7. Ap.
^l m. pp. 13, 14. Ap.

of water, I hope all learned charitable Christians will judge SECT.
IV. favourably of the Church of England for using none; and, on the other side, we of the Church of England ought by no means to censure others who put water into the Cup, for they have the consent of the Church Catholic of all ages with them in this particular. Pfaffius^m shews, that the cup of blessing among the Jews did for the most part consist of wine mixed with water, and from thence concludes that the primitive Church took this practice from them, as it is certain they did several others. He might from the use of the Jews have safely inferred, that it is most probable our Saviour qualified the wine with water; for the wine blessed by our Saviour for the Eucharist was what remained after the conclusion of the Passover. It is observable, that Moses takes Exod. xxiv. 5, 6.
Heb. ix. 19. no notice of the water mingled with the blood of the covenanting sacrifices offered at his own directions; yet St. Paul assures us that "Moses took the blood with water." No certain conclusion can be drawn from the Evangelist's omission, any more than from that of Moses. The mixture of water with the wine makes the old and new covenant more exactly to answer each other.

I have said what is sufficient to shew, that Bread and Wine, in themselves considered, are substances or materials very proper for a sacrifice; and that though living creatures were perhaps in all ages offered by some people, but especially by the Jews and the Gentiles of the times next before and after our blessed Saviour, yet that through all these ages bread, wine, and all other valuable fruits of the earth, were esteemed proper sacrifices and used as such; and that therefore we have the unanimous consent and agreement of all the ancient people with us, when we affirm the Bread and Wine of the Eucharist to be fit materials for a real Sacrifice.

And Bread and Wine offered in the Eucharist are not a Sacrifice only, but a most excellent one; and that,

1. Because, by the use of this Sacrifice we are freed from the yoke and bondage of those various sacrifices of the Jewish Law, with the burden of those numerous ceremonies with which they were attended. We have our minds no longer encumbered and oppressed with the study and consideration The simplicity of the gross substances in the Eucharist.

^m De Oblatione Eucharist., p. 173, &c.

CHAP. I. of that multitude of materials, which the Jews were obliged to provide for the performance of Divine worship. The meaner people are no longer under doubts and scruples, whether they ought to put themselves to the charge of a beast or to carry only a meal-offering to the altar. There is one Sacrifice only to be offered by all, and for all our needs, wants, and joys; and in which all may contribute according to their several abilities. The substance or natural ingredients of our Sacrifice are not difficult to be procured or costly to be purchased. We are tied to no certain bulk or quantity of bread and wine, as the Jews were in their unbloody sacrifices. We have no occasion to distract our minds with care, how the Bread and Wine, which we offer, be made; it is sufficient that it be bread and wine, the best that we can procure. In a word, the Christian Sacrifice is like the Gospel itself, plain and simple, which does not employ either the mind or body with so many external observances, as the Jewish sacrifices did.

The dignity
of the mys-
terious sub-
stance.

2. But that which renders the Eucharist the most excellent and valuable Sacrifice that was ever offered, except the personal Sacrifice of Christ, is this; that the Bread and Wine, then offered, are in mystery and inward power, though not in substance, the Body and Blood of Christ. This raises the dignity of the Christian Sacrifice above those of the Law of Moses, and all that were ever offered by mere men. As it is natural bread and wine, it is the sacrifice of Melchisedec and of the most ancient philosophers: as it is the Sacrifice of the Sacramental Body and Blood of Christ, it is the most sublime and Divine Sacrifice that men or angels can offer.

CHAP. I. SECT. V.

Of the agreement and disagreement of the Eucharist with the sacrifices of the ancients, as to the commendable qualities of the Sacrifice.

IN treating of the qualities of Sacrifice, I shall,

1. Shew what qualities have always been thought most excellent in sacrifices.

2. And in what measure these qualities belong to the **SECT. V.**
Eucharist.

1. What qualities have always been thought most excellent in Sacrifices; and these are,

1. That it be the best that men have to give, if they be left to choose what they will offer.

2. That it be what is most agreeable to the will of God, if His will in this particular be made known to us.

1. **T**HAT the most excellent property of Sacrifice is, that it be the best we have to give, if we be left to choose what we will offer. It seems highly probable, that this was the case of Cain and Abel. God had not expressly determined what sort of things He would have in sacrifice, or what should be the qualities, properties, and conditions of the things which they were to offer in the honour and worship of God; therefore each of them offered such things as their craft and way of life furnished them withal; the husbandman of the fruits of the earth, the grazier of his cattle or of the wool and milk of them. But it is probable, that Cain had not due regard to this rule of giving the best he had to God, as his brother Abel did; for we are assured that the latter gave 'more' or a 'greater sacrifice' to God than the former. He gave a proof of his faith in the goodness of God by offering in a more large and plentiful manner than the other, or by choosing what was largest in its kind, for the original Greek word will bear either of these significationsⁿ; but the word 'excellent' is added by our Translators, and was not used by St. Paul. Noah chose of the clean beasts and birds, that is, such as were fit to be eaten, and therefore most valuable. And it may be observed in general, that the sacrifices offered by Jews and Gentiles too consisted of such things as were most proper for food or at least for clothing, though not without some exceptions. The reason of this is very plain, namely, that sacrifices were used long before silver and gold or those things which we now most value were discovered, and before the standard of exchange, that is, money, was

ⁿ Heb. xi. 4. πλείονα θυσίαν, 'more,' or a 'more ample sacrifice.'

CHAP. I. invented. And the custom of offering victuals and drink, being established before other things which are now counted more precious were in use, did still continue and was the universal practice of all nations. And the examples of melting down silver and gold and such-like novelties, as Croesus did, are very rare. For what is most ancient in religion has always been esteemed to carry a sort of authority with it. And, in truth, there is more intrinsic value in a loaf of bread and a flagon of wine than in all the gold and silver in the Indies; because the former will for some time support our lives, the other cannot do it of itself, but only as by the consent of men it has a value set upon it, whereby it *answers*, and is the price of all things.

This was
the opinion
of the hea-
then.

Mal. i. 14.

1 Sam. xv.
15.

The care of
the heathen
in this
point.

I need not allege particular texts of Scripture, or the sayings of ancient heathen writers, to prove, that whatever was offered in sacrifice was to be the best in its kind; that the animal to be slain at the altar, was to be without blemish and perfect in all its parts^o. The Law of Moses indeed, in one case, according to our translation^p, allowed an animal that had “something superfluous or lacking” to be offered to God, but it was only as a “free-will-offering;” and the ancient Greek Translators do so render this text, that it is plain they only thought that such a beast might be killed by the owner for his proper use. And this seems most agreeable to the whole tenour of the law. The Prophet pronounceth a curse on him, that “having a male in his flock voweth and sacrificeth a corrupt thing.” And even Saul took care that none but “the best of the sheep and oxen” should be sacrificed to the Lord.

The heathen, excepting the Spartans, who offered the most scrubbed animals, had their priests^q or other officers, whose peculiar care it was to view and examine the beasts that were to be offered; and Solon made a law at Athens, that none but select sacrifices should be brought to the altar. Virgil^r speaks of “chosen two-yearing” sheep slain in sacrifice.

^o Ainsworth, on Levit. vi. 12, observes^s from Maimonides, that according to the notions of the Rabbies^t the very wood burnt on the altar was to be of the best, not worm-eaten, not the wood of old buildings pulled down.

^p Levit. xxii. 23; the LXX render

it, σφάγια ἀποθήσεις αὐτὰ σεαυτῷ.

^q Μωμόσκοποι, and Μοσχοσφραγίσται.

^r Lectas de more bidentes. AEn. iv. ver. 57. AEn. vi. 39; see Servius's Notes there.

And indeed it seems very clear, that by “a sacrifice of SECT.
V. righteousness,” in the Old Testament, (for the phrase is not found in the New,) is meant a large generous sacrifice without any defect or imperfection. It is first used in Moses’ blessing to Zebulun and Issachar, of whom it is said, “They shall call the people to the mountain, there they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness; for they shall suck of the abundance of the seas, and the treasures hid in the sands.” The meaning of which is, that these two tribes shall be enabled to offer costly sacrifices, and by this means to give a good example to their neighbours in going to Zion to perform their devotions; because of lying near to the great ports of Tyre and Sidon they shall grow very rich. Their riches indeed could not make them more pious or virtuous than their neighbours; but they were by this means qualified to be more liberal in their sacrifices. And every body knows that ‘righteousness’ often signifies ‘liberality’ in Holy Scripture. David promises that, when God should “be pleased to Psalm li.
18, 19. be gracious and favourable to Zion” in making it the settled place of worship and to “build the walls of Jerusalem,” then “He should be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness;” and presently tells us, what he means by this expression, namely, “burnt-offerings and oblations” or “burnt-offerings and whole-burnt-offerings,” as our last Translators have it; by which is meant great plenty of these sacrifices. If David had meant a sacrifice consisting of righteousness; and by righteousness meant holy and virtuous affections and dispositions; this might as well have been understood before Zion was the place of worship, as afterwards. At another place, David calls upon his enemies to “offer the sacrifice of right- Psalm iv. 5. eousness.” Achitophel had asked David leave to go to 2 Sam. xv.
7—12. Hebron and pay his vows; this was only a pretence to make an escape from King David, and to join Absalom and his party; yet he did actually offer sacrifice. David had reason to suspect, that this politician under the colour of religion was brewing mischief; yet he advises him and his companions, if they did sacrifice, to do it as became men of their condition, that is, with a bountiful hand. Though if any man think that the Royal Prophet intended by this expression to give them an admonition, that they should season their sacrifices

A sacrifice
of righte-
ousness, is
a large
sacrifice.
Deut.
xxxiii. 12.

C H A P. I. with piety and holiness ; I have no objection against this, but that in the two texts before-mentioned the phrase carries no such meaning. Malachi foretells of the Messiah, that
Mal. iii. 3. He shall “purify the sons of Levi,” the Gospel-Priests, so as that “they shall offer sacrifice in righteousness.” This too may signify a plentiful, ample oblation ; for Irenæus testifies that many Christians offered all they had. But it is evident, upon the whole, that in whatever sense you take it, yet “righteousness” could not be the sacrifice itself, but the quality which belonged to it or to those that offered. So by a “sacrifice of shouting^s” is not meant a sacrifice made up of sound, but burnt-offerings and peace-offerings, over which the trumpets were blown. But though where men were left at liberty, they generally thought themselves obliged to present the best they had for the use of the altar ; yet still the next rule often took place of this ; I mean,

2. That if the will of God be known, that sacrifice is to be preferred, which He Himself hath chosen. For I suppose no man would ever dispute, whether God or man were the most proper judge of what is to be offered in sacrifice, or what properties in the creatures offered are most acceptable to Him. For aught appears, God did never determine the quality of the things offered by the Patriarchs before the Law, but they were left to their own discretion ; but, under the Law, the Israelites were in a great measure stinted and confined in this respect. If they offered a bloody sacrifice, it must be a bullock, sheep, goat, a turtle-dove, or young pigeon : if it was intended for a burnt-offering, it must be a bull, a ram, or he-goat ; if for a sin-offering for a private person, it was either a young bullock or a lamb or kid of the female sex ; if it was a peace-offering, either bullock, sheep, or goat, male or female. If his sacrifice was unbloody, yet the quantity of the meal and wine was in most cases fixed and certain, and no room left for the offerer’s choice ; and it was presumption in any man to pretend to choose better than God had done.

The care of
the Gen-
tiles in that
point.

The Gentiles, too, were sensible, that they ought not to offer any other thing than what their gods (such as they were) had singled out for this purpose ; if they knew or

* Compare Psalm xxxii. 6, Numb. x. 10.

fancied, or had by tradition been informed what creatures were most agreeable to them. It is true their pretended gods were very fantastical in making their choice of sacrifices, or, rather, they who would be thought the interpreters were very oddly conceited in this respect ; for some gods must have what they loved offered to them, as Mars a bull, Venus a dove, Æsculapius a cock ; others what they hated, as Bacchus a goat, because it was an enemy to the vine ; Ceres a sow, because that animal used to destroy the young fruits of the earth ; Hecate a dog, because this brute uses to bark at the moon ; for Hecate was no other than the moon herself. And the notions, which they had of the excellence of one sacrifice above another, were very uncertain and inconsistent. The generality of them thought a bullock the best ; yet the Romans believed the sheep to be “the greatest sacrifice,” though not in bulk, yet in its fitness to be offered to the gods. Plato, as Cicero^t reports his opinion, looked upon birds as “the richest present” to the gods ; but Pythagoras and his followers, the most ancient Greeks and Latins, judged cakes and fruit and sober drink-offerings, that is, in which there was no wine, most acceptable to them.

It is certain they had no light in this particular, but from their own conjectures or fond traditions. But that they always acted on this principle, that the gods themselves were the most proper judges in this point, appears from this, that when they were at a loss what to offer, and had tried many sacrifices to no purpose, they consulted their oracles ; for from them they hoped to have the most certain intelligence concerning the will of their gods in this as well as other matters. Cicero gives us a remarkable instance of this^u ; “The Athenians,” says he, “consulted Apollo, ‘What modes of

^t De Legib., lib. ii. post med. Aves divitissima dona. [The reading in Olivet's and all other Editions of Cicero, which the Editor has consulted, is this : “Divinissima autem dona, aves et formæ ab uno pictore uno absolutæ die;” Cicero De Legibus, lib. ii. c. 18. tom. iii. p. 152. Ed. Olivet. Paris. 1740. It is confirmed by the passage in Plato, from which it was originally taken : θεότατα δὲ δῶρα ὅριθές τε καὶ ἀγάλματα, δσα περ ἀν ἐν μηδὲ ςωγράφος ἡμέρᾳ εἰς ἀποτελῆ.—Legg., lib.

xii. vol. viii. p. 608. Ed. Bekker, 1826.]

^u Cum consulerent Athenienses Apollinem Pythium, quas potissimum religiones tenerent, oraculum editum est, eas, quæ essent in more majorum. Quo cum iterum venissent, majorumque morem dixissent sæpe esse mutatum, quæviscentque quem morem potissimum sèquerentur e variis, respondit, optimum. Et profecto ita est, ut id habendum sit antiquissimum, et Deo proximum, quod sit optimum.—De Legib. post med., lib. ii.

C H A P. I. worship they should retain?' the oracle answered, 'Such as their ancestors had practised.' When they came again, and said, 'The practice of their ancestors had been often altered,' and desired to know, 'which mode of the various modes of their ancestors, they should choose?' the answer was, 'That which was the best.' And truly that which is best is to be accounted most ancient and most agreeable to the gods," as Cicero there adds. And from hence we may learn the great uncertainty and inconsistency of tradition in things relating to religion; and yet at the same time the common notion of mankind, that, where it does appear to be certain and uniform, a great regard is due to it. From hence appear the endless doubts and perplexities of the heathen in religious matters; and from hence we learn what their judgment was, as to the doctrine I am now speaking of; namely, that when the Divine will can be known concerning the manner and properties of sacrifice, we are to look no farther: for it was to this end that the oracle was consulted, though the question which they put was rather evaded than answered.

And their
supersti-
tion.

They who looked upon themselves as better assured concerning the will of their gods, in relation to the quality of the beast which they were to offer, were most dotingly superstitious in taking care that the beast might be precisely such as that god required. Of this the Egyptians* are a very noted instance; who, being persuaded that their gods, especially Epaphus or Apis, though black himself, had a strong aversion to that colour in any bull that was sacrificed to him, used to appoint an officer on purpose to view and inspect with the most nice exactness the whole body and tail of the bull which was to be slain in honour to him. They did not think it sufficient to have him carefully surveyed as he was standing on his legs, but they threw him on his back and carefully pried into every part; and if but one black hair appeared, he was rejected as unworthy to become a sacrifice to Apis. If, after the strictest examination, not one black hair was found about him, he was marked or sealed by the officer who made the inspection; and it was present death, by the law, to offer any bull that wanted his seal.

* Herodot. Euterpe, c. 38, 39.

2. Now to apply what has been said to the Eucharist, and SECT.
V.
to shew in what measure these qualities belong to it; we have here that sacrifice, which is, if we respect the natural qualities of it, such an one as some of the wisest men have esteemed more agreeable to the nature of Divine worship than any other; a sacrifice free from all that stench and gore, with which bloody oblations are more or less accompanied, and which made them loathed by men of nice and tender senses.

But, because what has life and blood is in its own nature to be preferred before that which is senseless; because God, in the Law which He gave to the Jews, preferred bloody sacrifices before unbloody ones, and allowed a meal-offering to be an atonement for sin, only in case the offender were too poor to bring a bullock or a goat; and especially since God's own sacrifice, the Passover, was a lamb, not a sacrifice of meal or of the fruits of the earth; therefore, to render ourselves sensible of the true value of the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, we are to consider it as intended by Christ to be a full and perfect representation of His Body and Blood; and Christ's Sacramental Body and Blood are as useful and beneficial to us, as if we had His natural Body lying on our Altars: and so the Eucharist has the purity and cleanliness of an unbloody sacrifice, and the value of a bloody one; it is of infinitely greater efficacy than all the bloody sacrifices of the Jews joined together, as being the Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ. It is not only the best we have to give; but it is that, which, by the will of God and our Redeemer, we are authorized to offer as long as the world endures; for thus we are to shew forth Christ's death until He come. And thus the holy Eucharist is the *pure meal-offering*, every where to be presented on God's Altar; and this meal-offering is to us, in spirit and power, the Body of Christ, Which takes away the sins of the world.

The intimation that I have given, that bloody sacrifices have somewhat of impurity in them, may at first sight seem to reflect dishonour on the great Sacrifice of Christ, Who was slain as a lamb without spot or blemish; but this surmise will vanish, when it is considered, that the reason of this impurity proceeds from the corruptible nature of all the

The qualities of Bread and Wine render them a pure Sacrifice.

Especially as a representation of the great Sacrifice.

The Sacrifice of Christ pure, though bloody.

CHAP. bodies of living creatures; but now the Body of Christ
 I. Jesus was not subject to this weakness or infirmity; He
 "saw no corruption," nor was He liable to any. By the
 will of God, and the hypostatical union of the Divine Nature
 with His human Body, He was freed from the common law
 of putrefaction.

The slaying
of Him im-
pure; and
therefore
not per-
formed by
Himself.

Acts ii. 22,
23.

Acts iii. 15.

Acts v. 30;
x. 39.

It is evident, there was one very gross impurity, a moral as well as natural turpitude, which accompanied the sacrificing of Christ's natural Body; I mean the barbarous and inhuman violence, by which It was slain. If the slaying this sacrifice had been an action necessary to be performed by the priest, it is evident that Christ could not have been a proper sacrifice, unless it can be supposed that the Holy Jesus could be guilty of laying violent hands on Himself; and if we will believe Scripture, it is certain in fact that He did not. St. Peter directly charges the Jews with this horrible murder; "Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain;" and again, "Ye denied the Holy One and Just, and desired a murderer to be given unto you, and killed the Prince of life." And the same Apostle says twice, that the Jews "slew Jesus, and hanged Him on a tree." And if St. Peter had not charged the Jews with the murder of Christ Jesus in such down-right terms as he did; yet we have the history of the process of this whole affair. We know that the Jews extorted the sentence of death from Pilate by their importunate clamours; that Christ was the instrument of His own death, only by resigning Himself up to God, and submitting to the violence of His enemies. We are assured, that the soldiers nailed Him to the Cross; he, that did most effectually shed His Blood by piercing His side, was a man of arms, and not a priest; and therefore we may safely pronounce, that though the sacrifice and oblation were the most pure and perfect that ever were, or can be, performed; yet, on the other side, the killing of this Sacrifice was the most wicked action that ever was, or can be, committed; and that therefore it was necessary, that the slaying the Sacrifice, and the offering it, should be separated from each other. And Christ, by His wisdom, did not only make a

distinction between those two actions, by doing the pure part Himself, and leaving the wicked part to be done by His enemies : but He put a considerable distance of time between these two actions : He performed the oblation over night, immediately after He had eaten the Passover ; He offered Himself under the symbols of Bread and Wine, when He instituted the Eucharist ; but He was not slain till the next day, till about twenty hours after He had as a Priest offered Himself a Sacrifice to God. We are therefore very certain, that Christ did not, could not offer Himself by killing the Sacrifice ; for then He must have killed Himself, and then this bloody sacrifice must have been in all respects grossly impure : but by providing that there should be so large an interval between the one and the other, He hath effectually secured the purity of the Sacrifice ; and the slaying of this Sacrifice was done once for all, and is never to be repeated. But what Christ did, when He gave Himself to God under the types of Bread and Wine, we are commanded to do in remembrance of Him.

Our Saviour, indeed, "laid down His life," and so does every Martyr that dies for the honour of God and the benefit of the Church ; so St. John tells us, "We ought also to lay down our lives for the brethren :" but nobody, I suppose, will call him a Martyr, who puts himself to death. When therefore Christ says, "I have power to lay down My life, and I have power to take it again," His meaning is, that He had not only that power, which every man certainly has, to lay down his own life ; but that He had power to take it again, in which He exceeded other men. A Martyr lays down his life, when by a devout act of self-resignation he expresses his readiness to die, in order to give testimony to the truth. Our Saviour laid down His life, when by a free act of His own will He did give His Body and Blood to God in the holy Sacrament.

I question not but that our Saviour, as He was a Divine person, had power to shorten or lengthen His own life without the application of outward means ; but I believe very few will be of opinion, that our Saviour could by a Divine act shorten His life without a blemish to His virtue. He came to be a perfect example of all duty ; and wilfully to hasten

How our
Saviour
laid down
His life.
John x. 17.
1 John iii.
16.

John x. 18.

CHAP. our own death will scarce be allowed to be agreeable to the
I. rules of religion; and we may safely presume, that our Saviour
would never do any thing that is not reconcilable to the
most strict rules of virtue. And though our Saviour's Divine
power was sufficient to have put a present period to His life,
whenever He thought fit; yet it is to be observed that it has
always been the opinion of the wisest Christians, that this
Divine power did not at all exert itself during the time of
His temptation and crucifixion. Pilate indeed "marvelled,
Mark xv.
44. if He were already dead;" but he had had no occasion to
wonder, if he had known how our Saviour's constitution was
broken with the continual hardships of His life, the frequent
watchings and fastings which He practised, with the zeal He
had for God's house and the purity of His worship by which
He was eaten or consumed, with the contradiction of so
many perverse enemies, and especially with that agony which
seized and continued on Him so many hours the night before,
which was so violent that it forced from Him great drops of
blood; and, lastly, with His bearing the Cross, so long as His
strength enabled Him; if, I say, Pilate had considered all
this, he would not have found any occasion to wonder, that
in six hours' hanging on the Cross nature was spent and life
failed. He that considers how our Saviour passed the fore-
going night, and especially what He underwent in the garden,
will see reason to conclude, that He must have been half dead
before He was nailed to the Cross. There is no doubt but
our Saviour died sooner than malefactors commonly did, or
than the two thieves crucified with Him. Felons and muti-
neers are for the most part a hardy race; they maintain
nature well with plunder and rapine; whilst our Saviour by
mortification and self-denial had made the stream of life run
very low, even before He came to suffer. The two thieves
had not undergone such an agony as our Saviour did the
foregoing night, and had probably been strangers to most of
those hardships, which reduced Christ Jesus to so weak and
feeble a condition.

They are hard put to it for arguments against the doctrine
of the Eucharist, who will assert, that Christ offered Himself
a Sacrifice upon the Cross only here on earth, and that He
was offered only by being slain; and so render the Sacrifice

of Christ a very bloody one indeed ; so bloody as that it can- SECT.
V.
not be reconciled to purity of any sort, until killing one's-self
be esteemed a virtue.

CHAP. I. SECT. VI.

*Concerning the agreement and disagreement of the Eucharist,
with the sacrifices of the ancients, as to the manner in which
it is offered.*

My reader will not expect, when I undertake to shew the manner of offering sacrifice, that I should enter into a long and needless discourse concerning all the lesser ceremonies used either by the ancient Jews or heathen or by the Christian Church in offering sacrifice. This would be not only tedious and even endless, but also altogether useless. The music, dancing, habits, of the priests and assistants ; the garlands, perfumes, and other rites used upon killing and offering sacrifice, were rather the garnish than necessary formalities. My business is to inquire, what were those rites or forms, whereby the ancients did offer their sacrifices, and which were so necessary to the offering of them, that without those rites and forms the sacrifice could not be ; and my end in doing this is to convince my reader, that no certain rite or mode of offering a sacrifice, excepting that of prayer, is in itself so necessary, as that a sacrifice loses its nature by being offered in another manner. If indeed a Jew offered a beast without using the forms prescribed by the Law of Moses, or in manner contrary to that Law, as Saul did, it is confessed this was no legal sacrifice ; but it was still a sacrifice, and acknowledged so to be by Samuel, or whoever wrote this history ; for he expressly declares that Saul “offered a burnt-offering :” and I suppose no one can doubt but that a burnt-offering is a sacrifice.

Now the only rites or actions that can be supposed necessary to sacrifice, are either,

1. The slaying of it, if it were a living creature ;
2. Or the sprinkling of the blood ;
3. Or the burning all or some part of the sacrifice on the

CHAP. I. altar, whether it were a sacrifice with life and blood, or without it;

4. Or the waving of the thing offered among the Jews, and the scattering of cakes or the corn and salt among the Gentiles;

5. Or else the presenting any creature with prayer to God upon or at the altar.

Slaying,
not the act
of oblation
among the
Jews.

1. The slaying of the sacrifice, if it be a living creature, is commonly thought a rite absolutely necessary; and, indeed, it was so in all those sacrifices of beasts among the Jews and Gentiles, in which it was required that the blood should be poured out at the foot of the altar; but yet, even in this case, to slay the sacrifice and to offer were two actions distinct from each other; and, indeed, the Jews^y do expressly declare it. They own that the killing of the holy things, or even the most holy, that is, the sacrifice for sin and trespass, might be done by strangers as well as by the Levites or the lay-offerers; whereas the solemn oblation could be performed by none but a priest. And, indeed, it is very evident by what has been already said, that things which have no life or blood may be a true sacrifice, though they are incapable of being killed; and if slaying the sacrifice were the act by which it is offered, and necessary to be performed by the priest, this would annul the Sacrifice and Priesthood of Christ Himself, except any one will blasphemously say that He murdered His own Body.

Nor among
the hea-
then.

And even the ancient Gentiles looked on the killing of the sacrifice, not as the action by which it was offered up, but only as an action necessary to be performed in order to the consuming of it; for the Gentile priest did not usually perform this servile office. Chryses, in Homer, officiates as a priest in the first sacrifice which that poet describes, but the beasts were killed by those who assisted at that solemnity^z; and he commonly uses the same words in the account he gives of other sacrifices. And in another narration, which the same poet gives of a sacrifice^a, Nestor performed the

^y See Ainsworth on Levit. i. 5, and Lightfoot.

^z Αὐέρυσσαν μὲν πρῶτα, καὶ ἔσφαξαν καὶ ἔδειραν, Iliad. A. ver. 459. These words are repeated, as often as Homer describes a sacrifice. Juvenal, Sat. xii.

ver. 14, speaking of a well-grown beast offered in sacrifice, thus expresses himself,

— et a grandi cervix ferienda ministro.

^a Odys. Γ. about ver. 450.

priest's office, but Thrasymedes strikes the bullock down, ^{SECT. VI.} and Pisistratus cuts its throat. No doubt, there are instances of the priest's killing the sacrifice upon some special occasions among the heathen as well as among the Jews; but since this was not perpetual, it is evident they did not esteem the slaying of it to be the rite, or one of the rites, by which the priestly oblation was performed; for then it must have been done by none but the priest. It is true, the later Greeks, being chiefly used to bloody sacrifices, and making their language agreeable to their practice, express 'sacrificing' and 'killing' by one and the same word^b: but this was but a corruption of their language; for I have elsewhere^c shewed that the word did at first signify not 'to kill,' but 'to burn,' or otherwise to offer anything to God.

2. As to the sprinkling of the blood, this was indeed, according to the notions of the Jewish Rabbies, the very root of their sacrifices; that is, by this means the beasts became proper sacrifices. But then this can be meant only of those which had life; whereas I have shewed, that there is great reason to believe that more unbloody sacrifices were offered at the altar of Jerusalem than bloody; and the sprinkling of the blood could not be the root of a meal-offering. Nay, whatever the modern Rabbies may pretend, yet it is plain that both the goats offered on the day of expiation were a sin-offering; and they are so expressly called by Moses: yet ^{Lev. xvi. 5.} one of these was not slain at all, nor by consequence could its blood be sprinkled by the priests; it was "presented alive ^{Lev. xvi. 10.} before the Lord to make an atonement;" so that a sacrifice might expiate guilt, though the blood of it was still running in its veins.

But as to the heathen, they were perfect strangers to this rite of the priest's sprinkling the blood. I have used my utmost diligence in inquiring into this matter, and cannot discover one single proof, that it was ever used at any altar or sacrifice, but the Jewish only. I have not only looked into Homer and the Greek Dramatics, and made the strictest

^b Viz., Θύειν.

^c See Part I. p. [74.] I might have produced another passage from Homer Il. i. ver. 219, where, after the sacrifice was killed, and the feast prepared, and

the guests set down, the Poet says of Achilles,

———— θεοῖστι δὲ θῦσαι ἀνώγει
Πάτροκλον, ὃν ἔταίρον· δ' ἐν πυρὶ¹
βάλλε θυηλᾶς.

CHAP. I. search that I could into other writers both Greek and Latin, but into those who have made collections of Greek and Roman antiquities ; even the diligence of Gronovius hath not furnished us with one single example of “ sprinkling” blood on the altar. It is true, the blood of the beast was commonly let out of its throat so near the foot of the altar, that it could scarce be, but that some of it must of necessity wet the altar ; but this proceeded from the slaying of it, which I have shewed not to have been the action by which it was offered, nay, generally speaking, not performed by the priest. I have put in the margin^d those passages of the ancient writers, which relate to this affair, that so my reader may judge for himself. However, this is a rite belonging to bloody sacrifices only.

Burning
not neces-
sary to

3. As to the rite of burning the whole or part of the sacrifice, it must be owned that this was more universally

^d Herodotus, Melpomene, c. 62, describes a barbarous sacrifice of the Scythians to Mars, to whom they offered many beasts, and especially horses, and sometimes captive men. The altar was a very large wood-stack three stadia square, one side of which was a gentle ascent. An old scymitar was fastened on the stack, which was the *ἀγαλμα*, or representation of Mars ; they killed the sacrifice in a certain vessel, and carried up the blood and poured it on the scymitar. It is probable this sacrifice was, as to the manner of it, singular, and adapted to the bloody nature of the supposed god, to whom it was offered. On the contrary, when a sacrifice was offered to Peace, the Grecians slew it at a distance from the altar, “lest the altar of Peace should be defiled with blood,” as we learn from Aristophanes’s *Pax, versus finem*. No conclusion can be made from these singular instances as to the general rules of sacrifice, but only this, that some gods delighted to be drenched with blood, but that others abhorred it ; and that, therefore, it was not any certain necessary rite of sacrificing. In the instance from Herodotus, not the altar but the *agalma* was perfused. Euripides, Iphig. in Aul. ver. 1563, in describing the sacrifice of that virgin, represents the priest, as taking the sacrificing knife, and considering where he should strike ; all hear the blow,

but Iphigenia disappears ; and in her stead a hart lies panting on the ground, and the altar is wet with drops of blood ; the Greek words are ἐρράινετ’ ἄρδην. Now this could not proceed from any sprinkling of the blood, distinct from the slaying ; for no other action or operation had passed upon Iphigenia, and the hart lying slain was only her substitute.

That which is most to the purpose is a citation from Lucian, thus describing a heathen priest; ‘Ο δ’ ιερεὺς αὐτὸς ἔστηκεν ἡμαγμένος, καὶ ὥσπερ ὁ Κύκλωψ ἑκίνος, ἀνατέμυων, καὶ τὰ ἔγκατα ἔξαιρων, καὶ καρδιούλκων καὶ τὸ αἷμα τῷ βωμῷ περιχέον· καὶ τί γάρ οὐν εὐσέβες ἐπιτελῶν ; [De Sacrificiis, p. 186. Ed. Paris. 1615.] He says, “The priest stood pouring blood about the altar ;” but one instance, and that a very late one, is of small weight in this case ; and, further, Lucian’s authority may justly be questioned, because it is not to be supposed that he was a frequenter of the temples and sacrifices. Scoffers are not always the greatest knowers ; and, after all, my reader will make a great difference between pouring and sprinkling ; at another place, (viz., p. 185,) of this very Dialogue, he describes the gods, as πίνοντες αἷμα τοῖς βωμοῖς προχέμενον, “drinking the blood poured on the altars,” not “licking the drops sprinkled on the altars.”

practised than any other, though still not so universally as SECT.
VI
to make it absolutely necessary to a sacrifice. It is certain, make a sa-
cifice, ac-
cording to
the notion
of the Gen-
tiles.
the Persians^e used no fire in their sacrifices; Herodotus takes particular notice of this, and yet is far enough from doubting whether they were sacrifices or not, on this account. They worshipped the fire as a god; and therefore to put what was offered to another god into the fire was, in their notion, to give that to one god, which was intended for another. The same writer assures us, that the ancient Scythians^f used no fire in their sacrifices; and that the Nomades^g, instead of laying what they sacrificed on the fire, threw it on the top of the house: and Diogenes Laertius^h informs us, that Pythagoras performed his devotions at the altar of Delos, which was called the “Unbloody Altar, the Altar of the Godly,” which was “without fire.” Yet I apprehendⁱ that no wise man ever made a question, whether these nations or this philosopher did offer real sacrifices. Apollonius Rhodius^k tells us of a sheep offered as a sacrifice by being thrown into the sea. Virgill^l describes to us a sacrifice of the same sort.

Yet it is certain, the main of the Jewish and Gentile sacri-

^e Herodot. Clio, c. 132. I am sensible Dr. Hyde (De Relig. veterum Pers.) denies that the Persians worshipped the fire with Divine honour; and asserts, that they offered their sacrifices by fire to the One True God. But his evidences are modern, or of an uncertain age, and therefore I conceive not to be laid in the scale against the unanimous suffrage of the ancients, especially in a point where men were capable of being determined by their own eye-sight; such was their burning or not burning their sacrifices. The modern Persians of the Magian sect may differ from their ancestors in these points. However, the old Grecians, who denied that the Persians burnt their sacrifices, did, notwithstanding this, allow them to be sacrifices; and therefore my argument holds good, whether the Persians consumed their sacrifices by fire or otherwise.

^f Herodot. Melpomene, c. 60, 61.

^g Herodot. Id., c. 188.

^h See Sect. I. of this chapter, *versus finem.*

ⁱ Diogenes La. says of Aristotle, that he denied that Pythagoras ever offered *ἱερεῖον*, that is, an animal sacrifice. [*ἱερεῖον δὲ μηδέν, ὡς φησιν Ἀρι-*

στοτέλης ἐν Δηλίων πολιτείᾳ. In Vita Pythag., p. 217.]

^κ Αἰψαδ' ὅγι ἐσσυμένως ἐκρίνατο, καὶ μιν δέρπας

Σφάξε κατὰ πρύμνης, ἐπὶ δ' ἔννεπεν εὐχωλῆστι—

^ϟ Η δέ μα δ' εὐχωλῆσιν ἐς ὕδατα λαιμοτομήσας

^ϟ Ήκε κατὰ πρύμνης.—[Argonautic., lib. iv. vv. 1595—1602. Ed. Stephano, 1574.]

^λ *AEn.* v. ver. 772.

Tres Eryci vitulos, et tempestatibus agnam,

Cædere deinde jubet, solvique ex ordine funem.

Stans procul in prora pateram tenet, extaque salsos

Porricit in fluctus, et vina liquentia fudit.

And again, *AEn.* v. ver. 235, Cloanthus makes this vow,

Di, quibus imperium est pelagi, quorum æqua curro,

Vobis latus ego hoc carentem in litore taurum

Constituam ante aras, votis reus, extaque salsos

Projiciam in fluctus, et vina liquentia fundam.

C H A P. fices were burnt in whole or in part : but if we will speak
I. strictly, the burning was not the action by which the sacrifice
 Burning was offered ; that was rather esteemed the Divine act, by
 may be con- sidered, either as an act of acceptance, or an act of oblation.
Lev. ix. 24; 2Chron. vii. 1; Lev. vi. 12, 13. Lev. ix. 24; out ;" and what was devoured by this fire was esteemed to be accepted by God, and was therefore called the "Bread of God" or "Food of God." The Rabbies tell us it was looked upon as an argument that God was not pleased with the sacrifice, if any part of the flesh laid on the altar remained unconsumed ; therefore many learned men are of opinion, that the people were thought by David^m to wish that God would "remember all his offerings, and turn to ashes all his burnt-offerings," in token of acceptance. Both the true Israelites and the worshippers of Baal unanimously agree in this, that "the God who answered by fire, he should be God ;" and when the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt-sacrifice, all the people that saw it fell on their faces and said, "the Lord, He is the God." This is a demonstration, that the burning was indeed an act of God ; and therefore it could not be the act by which the sacrifice was offered, for that must be an act of man. And though the fire did not come down on the altar at Jerusalem, as often as sacrifice was offered, yet all sacrifice there was to be burnt with that fire, which first came from God ; and therefore all of them were in effect consumed by the fire of the Lord, by which He shewed His acceptance of them. If indeed by "burning" be meant only 'laying it on the fire,' in this sense it must be owned, that burning was an action whereby the oblation was made. Therefore it is often said of the priests, that they "offered the fat," that is, they did in due form lay [it] on the fire of the altar ; but if by "burning" be meant 'consuming it,' then it is evident that this was no action of the priest's ; it was done by the fire of God, and by it the sacrifice was not offered but accepted.

No sacrifice consumed by being offered.

Therefore, if we will discourse according to the rigid laws of truth, we cannot say that any sacrifice, even among the Jews, was consumed in being offered. The priest offered it by laying it on the altar ; God consumed it by the fire, which

^m Psalm xx. 4. See the margin of our English translation.

He sent from heaven to shew His acceptance of the sacrifice there performed, and which was by His commandment always kept there for this purpose. And though these two actions of laying the flesh on the fire and consuming it were at a very small distance from each other in time and order of doing, yet they are widely different in the intention of the law-maker and in their import as concerning sacrifice ; for one was the act of man offering, the other was the act of God accepting.

Not only the worshippers of Baal, but many other heathens, have esteemed the consuming the sacrifice as an action performed by the god, to whom it was offered. It has been shewedⁿ, that they thought the gods feasted with them, and that what was put into the fire was esteemed the god's share ; and therefore, as they likewise pretended to have Divine^o or heavenly fire on their altars, so they thought the gods were more or less pleased with the sacrifice, according as the flame had more or less of brightness and vigour. No less a man than Cicero^p promised himself good success, because, when his wife had sacrificed and was going to make some libations on the ashes, of a sudden the flame did of itself rise out of the ashes to receive her devotions. Pindar^q tells us, the Rhodians performed "a sacrifice without fire;" but that Jupiter rained down upon them "a golden shower." This shews that the distinction between the offering the sacrifice and the acceptance of it was very old even among the heathen.

SECT.
VI.

The hea-
then looked
on the
burning, as
the Divine
acceptance.

ⁿ Sect. II. of this chapter.

^o Servius on *AEn.* xii. ver. 200, has these words, *Apud majores aræ non incendebantur, sed ignem Divinum precibus eliciebant qui incendebant altaria.*

Alphesibœus pleases himself, that the fire kindled itself on the altar to consume his offerings. See Virgil, *Ecl.* viii. ver. 105.

Aspice ; corripuit tremulis altaria flammis

Sponte suâ, dum ferre moror, cinis ipse. Bonum sit !

And part of the same Poet's description of a hopeless sacrifice is this; Georg. iv. ver. 490.

Inde neque impositis ardentes altaria fibris,

Nec responsa potest consultus redere vates.

And again, Georg. iv. ver. 384.

Ter liquido ardentes perfudit nec-tare Vestam :

Ter flamma ad summum tecti sub-jecta relaxit.

Omine quo firmans animum —.

Euripides thus describes a hopeless sacrifice, *Βωμοῖς τ' ἄφλεκτοι πέλασοι.* — [Helena, v. 1834.]

^p See Servius on Eclog. viii. ver. 105. Sine igne subito ex ipsis cineribus flamma emersit. Hoc uxori Ciceronis dicitur contigisse; cum peracto sacrificio libare vellet in cinerem, ex ipso cinere flamma surrexit, quæ flamma eodem anno Consulem futurum ostendit ejus maritum; sicut Cicero in suo testatur Poemate.

^q Pindar. Olymp. 7.

Τεῦχας δ' ἀπύροις ἵεροῖς

"Αλτος ἐν ἀκροπόλει. κείνοισι μὲν ζαν-
θὸν ἀγαγάν νεφέλαν,
Πολὺν ὅσε χρυσόν.

CHAP. Whether the “golden shower” were a fire or not, yet it is certain he meant it as a token of the Divine acceptance. This was probably an intimation of what is related concerning fires

I.
Lev. ix. 24;
1 Chron.
xxi. 26;
2 Chron.
vii. 1.

descending from heaven on the altars erected by Moses, David, and Solomon. This, I think, is clear enough from the notions of the heathen, as well as from our sacred records, that the consuming the sacrifice by fire was rather the action whereby the Divine acceptance of the sacrifice was signified, than the action whereby the sacrifice was presented to God.

*Neither
burning,
nor laying
on the
altar, abso-
lutely ne-
cessary.*

*Exod. xii.
7.*

*2 Chron.
xxxv. 11.*

Nor were the rites of laying the sacrifice on the altar or on the fire so necessary as that nothing was esteemed a sacrifice, when this ceremony was omitted. It is certain, the Persians had no altars, nor the Nomades; and God’s own sacrifice, the Passover, was first offered in the land of Egypt, where it is not credible that every family of the Israelites could have an altar: and if they had, it is clear they made no use of it on this occasion; for the blood of the lamb was sprinkled not on an altar, but on the two side-posts and the upper door-posts of their houses; though, after the temple was built, the blood of the lamb was sprinkled by the priests on the altar there, and by this ceremony the whole lamb became a sacrifice to God^r. If the Jews in after-ages did burn any part of it, which yet is not sufficiently proved, this was only a departure from the first institution. God Himself made it a sacrifice, without enjoining this rite of laying any part of it on the fire; and, sure, it must be allowed, that He is the most proper judge of what is a sacrifice, and of what ought to be deemed so by us.

*Cain and
Abel’s sac-
rifice not
offered by
burning,
nor Abra-
ham’s, Gen.
xv.*

*Gen. xv. 9
—18.*

By what rites or in what manner Cain and Abel offered their sacrifices to God, we can only guess. If they did it by laying what they offered on an altar or fire-hearth, as is commonly supposed, and God shewed His acceptance of Abel’s by causing fire to fall on it from heaven, which is the common opinion; then we have another great evidence that the consuming of the sacrifice is an act of God and not of him that sacrifices. Cain offered his fruits, as well as Abel his cattle; but, upon this supposition, Abel’s sacrifice only was burnt, Cain’s was not; both of them had sacrificed, before either of their sacrifices was consumed by fire. Abraham’s covenant-

* See Sect. I. of this chapter.

ing sacrifice was performed without any altar, nor did either God or Abraham consume it by fire; but the night after it was offered, while the beasts and birds which he had slain were lying in that order, [in] which Abraham had left them the day before, "a smoking furnace and a burning lamp passed between the pieces," not only to signify the fiery trials into which Abraham and his posterity were like to fall, but to give Abraham an assurance of the confirmation of the covenant between God and himself. It seems probable, that all the other sacrifices before the Law, which are mentioned in Scripture, were consumed by fire.

SECT.
VI.

But there is no reason to believe, that nothing was esteemed a sacrifice under the Law but what was burnt on the altar; for not to mention what has been already said of the Passover, the LXX Interpreters expressly call the two wave-loaves "a new sacrifice;" though they were baked with leaven, and therefore were not to be burnt upon God's altar either in whole or in part. We are sure that the scape-goat served the ends and purposes of a sacrifice for sins. It was twice presented to the Lord, once together with the other goat, and afterwards distinctly by itself. It was "presented alive before the Lord to make an atonement," and is called a sin-offering, and had the sins of the people actually transferred upon it; it is expressly said, that "all the iniquities and transgressions of the children of Israel shall be put on the head of the goat;" which is so full a declaration of the goat's being deputed in the stead of the people, as is no where else to be found. And to dispute after all this, whether the scape-goat was a sacrifice, is as mere a strife about words as was ever yet raised; and from hence it unavoidably follows, that it is not absolutely necessary that a sacrifice be consumed either by fire or by eating and drinking: it is sufficient that it be disposed of according to the will of God.

4. Some sacrifices among the Jews were offered to God by being waved or swung by the hands of the priest toward the several points of the universe. This was the action by which the loaves at the feast of Pentecost became a sacrifice; and I suppose the same may be said of the sheaf or omer of corn for the first-fruits. The beasts offered upon both these occasions were likewise to be waved, and so were several other

Not the
wave-
loaves and
scape-
goats.

Lev. xxiii.
16; xxiii.
17.

Lev. 17.

Lev. xvi. 7.
10.

Lev. xvi.
21, 22.

Lev. xvi. 5.

Lev. xvi.
21, 22.

C H A P. I. — sacrifices ; but then they were also burnt in whole or in part, as the offering of the first-fruits was not, because leaven was mingled with it. But since those wave-offerings were but few in comparison of those which were offered in another manner, therefore no man will, I presume, suppose that this rite was so necessary as that no sacrifice could be offered in any other manner.

Nor scattering the salted cake or corn. It does not appear, that the Gentiles had any ceremony like that of waving in their sacrifices ; but they had universally a custom of breaking cakes or scattering barley mixed with salt upon the sacrifice before it was killed, if it was a beast, and of pouring wine upon the head of it. This is what needs no proof, because it is allowed by all. And, indeed, this was by the Greeks and Romans hardly ever omitted ; insomuch that ‘to immolate,’ that is, to cast the barley and salt upon a beast, and ‘to sacrifice’ it, are used as phrases of the same signification, and that very frequently. Yet it can by no means be said, that no living creature could be made a sacrifice without the use of this rite ; for then the sacrifices of the Jews, which were not offered in this manner, must be declared to have been defective.

The great stress laid on meal- and drink-offerings by the Law.

The Jews, indeed, had their meal-offerings and wine-offerings, and these two joined with all their sacrifices of beasts^s, excepting those for sin and trespass, as I have before observed ; but there was this great difference between the Jews and Gentiles in this particular, that the meal and wine, which ushered in the heathen sacrifices, finished or concluded the Jewish ; but they were esteemed as necessary to attend the oblation of a beast among the Jews, as to go before the oblation of it among the Gentiles. He that reads several verses together in the twenty-ninth chapter of Numbers, according to the most ancient translation of the LXX, may be inclined to think that the meal-offering was indeed the Jewish sacrifice, and the beast killed before the meal-offering was intended to be only an introduction to it ; for thus they render the Hebrew, ver. 2, “Ye shall offer burnt-offerings for a sweet savour unto the Lord, one young bullock, one ram, seven lambs of a year old, without blemish ;” 3. “Their sacrifice is [of] fine flour mingled with oil, three tenth-deals

^s See Exod. xxix ; Lev. xiv.

to one bullock, two tenth-deals to one ram, and one tenth-deal to every one of the seven lambs ;” 5. “ And one kid of the goats, for a sin-offering, to make atonement for you ;” 6. “ Beside the burnt-offerings of the new moon, and their sacrifices, and drink-offerings ; and the continual burnt-offerings, and their sacrifices, and drink-offerings,” &c. 7. “ And in the tenth month,” &c. 8. “ Ye shall offer for a burnt-offering, one young bullock,” &c. (as ver. 2.) 9. “ Their sacrifice shall be [of] fine flour :” again, ver. 11, “ The continual burnt-offering, and its sacrifice, and drink-offering,” &c. This is repeated no less than eighteen times more in this chapter, and five or six times in the twenty-eighth. In all these places, not the animal offered, but the meal-offering presented with it, has the title of a ‘sacrifice’ given to it. And we have no reason to doubt but that, if the Apostles or Christ Jesus had had occasion to have cited any part of this chapter, they had also called the meal-offering, the sacrifice ; since so often as they mention any text, where the meal-offering is mentioned, they always allow it the name of ‘sacrifice ;’ and indeed do generally follow the Greek Translation.

5. The only remaining manner or action, whereby a sacrifice was of old offered, is prayer or invocation of the Name of God. And this was, in all probability, the manner by which the Patriarchs offered their sacrifices. We read of Abraham and Isaac, that they “ built altars, and called on the Name of the Lord.” I suppose that the most natural meaning of these texts is, that they offered sacrifices on the altars which they erected, and offered them by calling on the Name of That God, in honour to Whom they at first built the altars. If we may believe Josephus, Noah offered his sacrifice by prayer¹. Samuel “ cried unto the Lord,” when he offered a sucking-lamb ; and David “ called on the Lord,” when he sacrificed in the threshing-floor of Araunah : neither of these sacrifices were performed according to the Levitical rites, but after the Patriarchal manner. They were neither of them sons of Aaron, and therefore sacrificed as Prophets, by an

Prayer was
a rite of
sacrifice,
used by the
Patriarchs,
taught by
nature.

Gen. xii. 8;
xiii. 4; xxi.
33; xxvi.
25.

¹ See Sect. IV. of this chapter.

[“] Jos. Antiquit., lib. i. c. 3. Νέως
—εὐμενῶς τε Αὐτὸν (Θεόν) προσδέχε-

σθαὶ τὴν θυσίαν παρεκάλει, καὶ μηδεμίαν
δργῆν ἔτι τὴν γῆν δμοίαν λαβεῖν.

CHAP. extraordinary authority, rather than as priests, according to
I. the settled laws of Moses. As no sacrifice was ever in earnest offered by a rational man but with an intention to do honour to that God to whom it was presented, or to procure some favour, or to avert some evil; so it must be owned to be very natural for them who presented it, to have their minds filled with devotion toward that God, with desires of procuring the good or avoiding of the evil, which were the occasion of the sacrifice; and it can scarce be conceived but that out of the abundance of the heart the mouth would speak.

Prayer used
in sacrifice
by the
Jews.

2 Chron.
xxix. 26—
28.

2 Mac. i. 23
—30.

Eccles. i.
11—19.

Yet it does not appear by any certain text of the Law of Moses, that prayer was required by any express command of God to be used as the settled constant manner or rite of offering sacrifice to God. Yet this does not prove that they did not offer their sacrifices by prayer: for, indeed, the Law of Moses makes no mention of any prayers or praises to be said or sung over their sacrifices; yet we are very sure that, “when the burnt-offering began, the song of the Lord began, and all this continued until the burnt-offering was finished.”

And the Apocryphal writer of the second Book of Maccabees says, that “the priests made a prayer while the sacrifice was consuming, Jonathan beginning, and the rest answering thereto, as Nehemias did:” and one part of this prayer was, “O Lord, receive the sacrifice of Thy whole people Israel;” and the priests sang psalms of thanksgiving. It is true, this story seems to be a mere fiction; but it cannot in reason be supposed, that the inventor would misrepresent the customs used in sacrificing, because this would have discovered the forgery to every common reader in the age, wherein it was first published; I mean, while the modes used in the sacrifices at Jerusalem were so well known by all the Jews. But the authority of Ecclesiasticus is sufficient, if there were no other, to prove that prayer was used in sacrificing; for this writer having described “the high-priest going up to the altar, and the sons of Aaron with the oblations in their hands, and finishing the service at the altar, and pouring the blood of the grape at the foot of it,” he thereupon adds; “then all the people together hasted, and fell down to the earth on their faces to worship the Lord God Almighty, and the singers also sang praises, and the people sought the Lord

the Most High by prayer, until the solemnity of the Lord was ended." It must be confessed, that it does not from any of these writers appear, that the officiating priest did offer the sacrifice by prayer. But what I would at present prove from these passages is, that prayer and praise was used in sacrificing, though it were not expressly required by the Law of Moses ; and the silence of the Law of Moses in this point can no more be an argument against the priests' offering sacrifice by prayer than against the people's using prayers upon this occasion. And if the people, with the assisting priests, did offer prayers and praises together with the sacrifices ; then the officiating priest too might perform the oblation by prayer, though the Law of Moses do not enjoin it.

And though prayer is nowhere in words at length commanded to be used by the priests in offering the Levitical sacrifices ; yet there is just reason to believe that it was sufficiently implied in the Hebrew word *kapper*, that is, 'making an atonement.' It is certain that Moses "made an atonement" for the idolatry of the people by his prayer. The vulgar Latin^x commonly so translates it ; and whatever the modern Jewish Rabbies may say to the contrary, yet the Greek Translators, the Chaldee^y, and the Syriac, do allow that the Hebrew words *pillel* and *kapper* signify 'to pray,' or to make atonement with prayer. And whereas, on the murmuring^z of the people upon the death of Korah and his company, a plague broke out and destroyed many of them, whereupon Aaron put on incense, and made an atonement for the people; it is evident that the author of the Book of Wisdom by making an atonement understood praying ; for thus he expresses this action of Aaron : " He brought the armour of his proper ministry, even prayer, and the propitiation of incense." And from hence we may learn, that to pray in the people's behalf was thought to be the duty of the priest, and a principal one too, though it was never expressed at large, but under this comprehensive word of 'making atonement' or 'reconciling.' Further, Dr. Outram argues with very great appearance of

Jewish priests implicitly required to offer sacrifice by prayer.

Exod.
xxxii. 30,
&c.

¹ Sam. ii.
²⁵.

^x *Orabit.* Lev. v. 6. 18 ; ix. 7, &c.
See Dr. Hickes's Christian Priesthood, p. 205.

^y See Critics on Psalm cvi. 30.
^z Compare Numb. xvi. 47 ; Wisd. viii. 21.

CHAP. reason, that the ceremony of laying hands on the head of the sacrifice did, according to the sentiments of the Jews, imply

I. Gen. xlviij. 14; Matt. xix. 15; Deut. xxxiv. 9; 1 Tim. v. 22; Mark v. 23; vi. 5; xvi. 18; Acts viii. 18, 19; xix. 6; Heb. vi. 2.

the use of prayer ; for it was a ceremony, by which, blessing, ordination to any office, curing the sick, and conferring the Holy Ghost, were performed. And I think there can be no just doubt but that, in all these cases, laying on of hands has ever been attended with prayer to God ; and it is therefore reasonable to believe that when God enjoined the owner of the beast to lay his hands on the head of it, in order to offer it as a sacrifice, the meaning was, that he should by a prayer offered on the occasion present it to God. And this rite

Lev. i. 4. 15; iii. 8. 13; iv. 13. was enjoined in all common bloody sacrifices, excepting that of birds. And if the sacrifice were offered in behalf of a priest, or if it were a more solemn sacrifice of consecration or

Lev. iv. 4; viii. 14. 18; xvi. 2. expiation, then the priest himself was to lay his hands on the head of it, and by consequence to offer it by prayer. It seems evident that the ancient Jews did so understand their law, and their practice was agreeable to their judgment. Dr. Outram^a has given us the very words of the forms of prayer used by the priests in offering the sacrifices on the great day of expiation.

Why there was no occasion for an express command.

Upon the whole, though it be very evident, that the Levitical Law expresses and requires the outward rites and formalities of sacrifice, in plainer and stronger words than it uses in relation to the prayers ; yet it is pretty evident, that both the priests and people of the Jews did apprehend, that sacrifice ought to be offered with prayer. The Jews and their ancestors had always worshipped God by sacrifice, as well as all the other nations of the world ; and to a people so well acquainted with the modes of this way of worshipping God, a hint was sufficient. They could not but know that their fathers and themselves, before the giving of the Law, did offer their sacrifices by prayer ; and there was therefore no necessity for God or Moses to be very large or express in their instructions as to this particular. The new rites of sprinkling the blood, and bringing the sacrifice to the door of the tabernacle, and offering it upon the altar in that tabernacle, and by the hands of Aaron and his sons only, and other such-like circumstances, are indeed frequently and in very clear words

^a *De Sacrif.*, p. [170. Ed. Lond. 1677.]

repeated and inculcated; but there was no occasion to be so exact and to speak so largely on a point, of which scarce any one could be ignorant. Indeed, their own common sense would go a great way in directing them as to this matter; for they could not but know, that all sacrifice was intended as an honour to God, and either to beg somewhat of Him, or to praise Him for some mercy already received; and it is as natural for men to speak their thoughts on such occasions, as it is to have such thoughts. And if it could be proved, that the Jewish priests and people did never express their devotions in words at the offering their sacrifices; yet it can not be conceived that they should sacrifice without the inward prayer of the mind, except you will suppose them to have been perfectly stupid as well as indevout.

And what does further convince me that natural reason will instruct men to offer their sacrifice by prayer is this, that the Gentiles did universally offer their sacrifices in this manner. Of this we have abundance of proof both from Greek and Latin authors, who lived in those very times when this way of worship did universally prevail, and might be daily eye-witnesses of it. I think this a matter of very considerable moment, and for that reason have in my margin^b presented

Gentiles
always
offered by
prayer.

^b Homer, in the description of the hecatomb sent by Agamemnon, and offered by Chryses as priest to Apollo, has these words, Iliad. A. 447.

Tοι δ ὁκα θεῷ κλειτην ἔκα-
τόμβην
'Εξείς ἐστησαν ἐνδυμητον περὶ βωμόν.
Χερνίψαντο δ ἔπειτα, καὶ οὐλοχύτας
ἀνέλοντο.

Τοῖσιν δὲ Χρύσης μεγάλ' εὔχετο, χεῖ-
ρας ἀνασχών'

Κλῦθι μεν, Ἀργυρότοξ,—
Δις ἔφατ' εὐχόμενος ——

Αὐτὰρ ἐπει δ εὔξαντο, καὶ οὐλοχύτας
προβάλοντο, κ. τ. λ.

In the description of the sacrifice, in which Agamemnon performed the priest's office, he has the following words, Iliad. B. 410.

— καὶ οὐλοχύτας ἀνέλοντο·
Τοῖσιν δ ἐνόμενος μετέφη κρείων
'Αγαμέμνων·

Ζεῦ κύδιστε, μέγιστε, ——

Αὐτὰρ ἐπει δ εὔξαντο, καὶ οὐλοχύτας
προβάλοντο, κ. τ. λ.

Αὐέρυσσαν μὲν πρῶτα ——.

Minerva (in the person of Antenor),

with Telemachus, landed at Pylos, and came upon Nestor and his guests while they were engaged in a sacrificial feast in honour to Neptune. Pisistratus says to the personated Antenor, Odys. G. ver. 43.

Εὔχεο νῦν, ω̄ ξεῖνε, Ποσειδάνωνι ἀν-
ακτι·

Τοῦ γὰρ καὶ δαίτης ἡντήσατε, δεῦρο
μολόντες.

Αὐτὰρ ἐπήρ σπείσης τε καὶ εὔξεαι, ἦ
θέμις ἐστίν, κ. τ. λ.

Antenor prays accordingly,

Κλῦθι, Ποσειδάνον, κ. τ. λ.

Nestor sacrifices to Minerva for having appeared to him; the ox and other things being prepared, Homer thus proceeds, Odys. G. 444.

— γέρων δ ἵππηλάτα Νέστωρ
Χέρνιβα τ' οὐλοχύτας τε κατήρχετο·

πολλὰ δ Ἀθήνη
Εὔχετ' ἀπαρχόμενος, κεφαλῆς τρίχας
ἐν πυρὶ βάλλων.

Αὐτὰρ ἐπει δ εὔξαντο, καὶ οὐλοχύτας
προβάλοντο, κ. τ. λ.

In a sacrifice mentioned by Apollonius Rhodius, you have these words, Ar-

C H A P. to my reader's view great evidence of it, from the age of
 I. Homer down to that of Pliny and Seneca the tragedian.
 And from these authorities it will appear, not only that they

gonautic. Δ. ver. 1593.

καὶ μὴ ἀείρας
 Σφάξει κατὰ πρύμνης, ἐπὶ δὲ ἔννεπεν
 εὐχωλῆσιν,
 Ὡς δέ ἡμαδὲ εὐχωλῆσιν ἐσθίατα λαι-

μοτομήσας
 Ἄκης κατὰ πρύμνης.

Herodotus, Clio, c. 132. *de Persis*,
 Τῶν δὲ ὡς ἐκάστῳ θύειν θέλει, ἐσχῶ-
 ρον καθαρὸν ἄγαγὼν τὸ κτῆνος, καλέει
 τὸν θεὸν.

Idem, Euterpe, c. 39. *de Egyptiacis*,
 Ἀγαγόντες τὸ σεσημασμένον κτῆνος
 πρὸς τὸν βωμὸν, ὅκου ἀν θύωσι, πυρὴν
 καίουσι: ἔπειτα δὲ ἐπ' αὐτοῦ οἶνον κατὰ
 τοῦ ἱρητὸν ἐπιπελάσαντες, καὶ ἐπικαλέ-
 σαντες τὸν θεὸν, σφάζουσι.

Idem, Melpomene, c. 60. *de Scythis*,
 Πίπιτοντος δὲ τοῦ ἱρητοῦ, ἐπικαλέει
 τὸν θεὸν, τῷ ἀν θύη· καὶ ἔπειτα—ἀπο-
 πνίγει.

Idem, Euterpe, c. 52.

Ἐθνον δὲ πάντα πρότερον οἱ Πελαστοὶ
 θεοῖσι ἐπευχόμενοι: — ἐπωνυμίην δὲ οὐδὲ
 δομομένην οὐδὲν αὐτῶν.

Euripides in Iphigen. in Aulid. describes the sacrificing of that noble virgin, and, after having set down Achilles's prayer at large, adds, ver. 1578.

Ιερεὺς δὲ φάσγανον λαβὼν ἐπτύχατο,
 Λαιμὸν τὸν ἐπεικοπεῖδ', θνατονέειν
 ἄν.

And after the fatal blow was given, and the virgin disappeared, and the bleeding hart was seen in her stead, and was burnt on the altar, he has these words, ver. 1603.

Τὰ πρόσφορά εὔξαθ' ὡς τύχοι νόστου
 στρατός.

Aristophanes, in *Pace*:

In his mock sacrifice to the goddess Irene, which is very large and particular, the people were thrice called on in these words,

Ἄλλα ὡς τάχιστ' εὐχώμεθ', εὐχώμε-
 σθα δῆ.—[v. 973. Ed. Dürdorff.
 Oxon. 1835.]

The prayer follows, and contains about forty verses, and in the prayer these words,

Δέσποινα χορῶν, δέσποινα γάμων
 Δέξαι θυσίαν τὴν ἡμετέραν.
 Δέξαι δῆτ', ὃ πολυτιμῆτη, κ. τ. λ.—
 [vv. 976—978.]

After the prayer, the sacrifice is ordered to be slain in the words immediately following,

Λαβὲ τὴν μάχαιραν εἴθ' ὅπως μαγει-
 ρικῶς

Σφάξεις τὸν οἶνον.

Virgil. *Aeneid.* iv. ver. 510. in Dido's sacrifice,

— crines effusa sacerdos
 Ter centum tonat ore Deos, Ere-

bumque, Chaosque,
 Tergeminamque Hecaten, &c.

Idem, *Georg.* ii. ver. 388.

Ergo rite suum Baccho dicemus
 honorem,

Carminibus patriis, lancesque et
 liba feremus;

Et ductus cornu stabit sacer hircus
 ad aram.

Ovid, *Metamorph.*, lib. vii. ver. 593, de-
 scribing a plague,

Admoti quoties templis, dum vota
 sacerdos

Concipit, et fundit purum inter cor-
 nua vinum,

Haud exspectato ceciderunt vulnere
 tauri!

Idem, lib. xv. ver. 130, in his *Apology* for Pythagoras,

Victima labē carens, et præstantis-
 sima formā

(Nam placuisse nocet) vittis præ-
 signis et auro,

Sistitur ante aras; auditque ignara
 precantem,

Imponique suæ videt inter cornua
 fronti,

Quas coluit fruges —

Pliny, in his *Natural History*, lib.
 xxviii. c. 2.

Victimas cædi sine precatione non
 videtur referre, neque Deos rite con-
 suli—*Et mox*

Ne quid verborum prætereat, aut
 præposterum dicatur, de scripto præire
 aliquem, rursusque alium custodem
 dari qui attendat; alium vero præponi,
 qui faveri linguis jubeat.

Juvenal, Sat. vi. ver. 391. [Ed. Lond.
 1835.]

— dictataque verba
 Pertulit, ut mos est, et apertâ pal-
 luit agnâ.

Seneca, in *Thyestes*,

Ipse est sacerdos, ipse funestâ prece
 Letale carmen ore violento canit,
 Stat ipse ad aras, ipse devotos neci
 Contrectat, et componit, et ferro ad-
 movet.—[vv. 689—692. in *Corp.
 Poett. Latinorum.*]

offered their sacrifice by prayer, but that they did it just before the sacrifice was slain; and that they thought these prayers necessary to make a sacrifice; that they had set forms of prayer, by which to perform this solemn devotion; and that great care was used, lest any mistake should be committed in rehearsing of them. If any man be disposed to think, that this manner of sacrifice prevailed by virtue of tradition rather than by natural reason, I see no occasion to dispute the matter with him; but whether it proceeded from reason or tradition, it is, I suppose, evident, that both Jews and Gentiles agreed in it.

Now to apply what has been said on this head to the Sacrifice of Christ. It is certain, that whether He performed the Oblation on the Cross or in the Eucharist, He did it not either by sprinkling the Blood, or by burning any part of His own Body, much less by slaying Himself, or by any other outward ceremonious action then used by the Jews or Gentiles in sacrificing; and it has appeared upon examining the particular rites, that not any of them can be esteemed necessary to make a sacrifice. And if any man shall fancy that some one of them is necessary, though he cannot himself tell which, I shall leave him to enjoy his own airy thoughts; and only further observe, that it is very clear that no outward ritual ceremonious action can in itself be compared to prayer for true value, and we have the universal consent of all the civilized people in offering sacrifice by a direct address of words and thoughts to God.

Herodotus^c reflects on it as a singularity in the Scythians, that they did not pray^d upon offering their sacrifices; yet he expressly tells us, that "they called on the name of that god to whom they sacrificed," before they slew the beast; therefore when he says they did not pray, his meaning must only be, that they offered no petitions, put up no particular requests, but left it with the god they worshipped to deal with them as he thought best. But to make general addresses to God, and to declare their design of honouring Him by the sacrifice then presented, has, I conceive, been the general practice of

^c Herodot., lib. iv. c. 60, 61. [πίπτοντος δὲ τοῦ ιρήσιου, ἐπικαλέει τὸν θεὸν τῷ ἀνθρη.]

^d [οὐτε πῦρ ἀνακαύσας, οὐτε κατ-

I

Prayer the
proper way
of offering
sacrifice.

CHAP. I. mankind from the beginning of the world: and in this manner of offering it all have ever agreed, though as to other rites there has ever been some diversity. The least that can in justice be said is, that this manner of doing it is in itself most proper and natural, and has been more universally practised than any other.

Christ did
so offer the
great Sacri-
fice.

Heb. x. 5.
8, 9; Ps. xl.
6.

And what rite or manner of offering the great Oblation should the Son of God choose, but that which had been practised by the Patriarchs, which was then in use among all nations, both Jews and Gentiles? but that which did not consist in ceremony or any external formality, but which was an address or application of His mind to God the Father? And certainly the Psalmist, by a prophetic spirit, gave us a very just account of Christ's performing His Priestly office, when he represents the Messiah's offering Himself (as St. Paul intimates) in these words, "Sacrifice, and offering, and burnt-offerings, and sacrifice for sin, such as are offered by the Law, Thou willest," or choosest "not, nor hast pleasure therein; but a Body hast Thou prepared Me: Lo, I come to do Thy will, O God," or rather, "I^e come to offer the delightful thing," which is, the prepared Body, just before mentioned. At another place, the same Apostle says of Christ, that "by^f the Eternal Spirit He offered Himself to God for us." By this it is very evident, that He performed the Oblation by lifting up His mind to God. Our Saviour in the institution of the Eucharist tells us, that His Body was then "given" for us; by what action He does not there particularly inform us; but the Apostle tells us that it was by "the Eternal Spirit," and therefore by a direct address to God. Isaiah tells us, that "Christ's soul made an offering for sin^g;" in which words it is implied, that He offered the Sacrifice of Himself by an internal act of His

^e See Part I. p. [179.] and [207.]

^f Heb. ix. 14. There is indeed another signification of this phrase, very consistent with the former, and which ought not here to be omitted; I mean, a thing may be said to be done 'in,' or 'by the Spirit,' when it is clearly represented to the view, not in natural substance, but by image or faithful representation. Thus (Acts xx. 22,) "St. Paul went bound in spirit to Jerusalem;" and Ezekiel and St. John are said to be "in the spirit," when things to come

are described and made visible to them, not by setting before their eyes the things themselves, but the pictures, landscapes, or emblems of them. Ezek. xi. 24; Rev. i. 10. For the same reason Christ may be said to have offered His Body and Blood 'in,' or 'by the spirit,' because He did it under the representative symbols of Bread and Wine.

^g Isa. liii. 10. See the margin of the English Bible, and the critics on the place.

mind. Whether our Saviour did openly pronounce the words SECT.
VI. of His mind, by which He offered His Body and Blood a Sacrifice for the sins of the world, we must be content to remain ignorant. He lets us know when He performed this most solemn and important action; and that was upon His instituting the Eucharist, when He blessed the Bread, and just before He said, "This is My Body given for you;" when He blessed the Cup, and said, "This is My Blood shed for you." And we have no reason to doubt but the Apostles did clearly discern the very precise instant of time, when He actually celebrated this **MOST SOLEMN OBLATION** of His Body and Blood; for it can scarce be supposed but that the most momentous action, which He ever performed on earth, must have been attended with some outward expressions of a most exalted inward devotion; if not also with audible words, containing a direct address to God the Father, and a declaration of His offering up His Body and Blood to Him. It is, I suppose, very evident, that Christ, as a Priest, used no other rite in making the Oblation of His Body and Blood. He must indeed have broken the Bread and poured out the Wine; but I am not aware that these were necessary to make the Sacrifice, but only actions proper to signify the crucifixion of His Body and the shedding of His Blood. He offered the Sacrifice by the Eternal Spirit, the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, Which always concurred with Him in all the most remarkable actions of His life; and, I suppose, it is not conceivable, how the Spirit of God should otherwise concur with Him in offering Himself to God, than by raising His human zeal and devotion to the highest pitch, and infusing a secret joy and comfort into His mind, while He was engaged in this most important act of our redemption.

And Christian Priests are to offer the Eucharist, as Christ did. This is what needs no proof; not indeed with an intention, that His natural Body should again be given up to death, which was His intention, when He offered the Bread and Wine as the symbols of His Body and Blood; but that we may offer our thanks to God for the benefits we receive from that Sacrifice, and that we may have those benefits applied to our souls. But though the ends of our offering are not in all respects the same, which Christ proposed to

We are to
offer the
Eucharist
by prayer
openly pro-
nounced.

CHAP. I. Himself, when He first offered this Sacrifice ; yet the manner or rite, whereby it is offered, does not at all differ from that used by Christ. To offer the Bread and Wine as the representatives of His Body and Blood by a prayer or a direct address to God the Father, has been the constant practice of the Christian Church. To which purpose I will only present my reader with the prayer, which was used in the most ancient Liturgy now in being, and by which the primitive Church performed this most holy ministration.

The Prayer immediately following the Words of Institution in the most ancient Liturgy now extant.

“ Wherefore, remembering Christ’s Passion, and Death, and Resurrection from the dead, and return into heaven, and His second coming with glory and great power to judge the quick and dead and to recompense every man according to his works, we offer to Thee, our King and our God, according to His appointment, this Bread and this Cup ; giving Thee thanks through Him, that Thou hast vouchsafed us to stand before Thee, and to sacrifice to Thee. And we beseech Thee to look favourably on these Thy gifts, which are here set before Thee, O Thou Self-sufficient God : and do Thou accept them to the honour of Thy Christ, and send down Thine Holy Spirit, the witness of the Lord Jesus His Passion, that He may make this Bread the Body of Thy Christ, and this Cup the Blood of Thy Christ ; that they who are partakers thereof may be confirmed in godliness, may obtain remission of their sins, may be delivered from the devil and his snares, may be replenished with the Holy Ghost, may be made worthy of Thy Christ, may obtain everlasting life, Thou being reconciled to them, O Lord Almighty.”

And all the other old Liturgies have words to the same effect. By which it appears, that as Christ first offered the Bread and Wine as His Sacramental Body and Blood by prayer, so did the Church in the following ages. And though it does not certainly appear from Scripture, that Christ prayed upon this occasion with an audible voice ; yet it is highly requisite, that His Ministers should pronounce the prayer in which the oblation is made, so as to be heard by the congregation : for

though men might safely depend on the silent inward prayers SECT.
VI. of our great High-Priest ; yet they cannot so entirely rely upon the secret unheard devotion of a mere human Priest or Minister. And, indeed, this were much the same thing as to depend upon his intention, as the people are taught to do in the Church of Rome ; and for which that Church is justly condemned by all good and wise men.

I suppose it will be easily granted, that prayer is in itself more excellent than any mere external rite, such as cutting the throat of an animal, sprinkling its blood, or burning flesh, corn, or bread in the fire, or waving it toward the several points of the compass. Prayer is the most noble service that a man is capable of rendering to God by any power of his own : there is nothing here below which excels it, but the Sacrifice which is offered by it in the Eucharist. This is indeed infinitely more worthy and acceptable, as being the Body and Blood of Christ in power and effect, though not in substance ; and prayer, being the most valuable action that we can do, is therefore the most proper manner of offering the most worthy Sacrifice that can be presented to God by mere men. Prayer is an exercise of our souls, which are by much the more honourable and perfect parts of us, and by our tongues, which are “the best members that we have ;” and is therefore a much more agreeable means of making the Oblation in the Eucharist, than the blood and fire and smoke, with which the sacrifices of the Jews and heathens were offered and consumed. The Eucharist is a spiritual Sacrifice, and therefore the offering it by prayer does best comport with its nature.

This best fits the nature of the Eucharist.

CHAP. II.

OF THE GREAT MOMENT AND NECESSITY OF THE EUCHARIST.

I. IN GENERAL. II. AS IT IS A SACRIFICE.

SECT. I.

*Of the great moment and necessity of the Eucharist
in general.*

When I speak of the great moment and necessity of the Eucharist in general; I mean, as it is

1. A positive institution of Christ;
2. As it is the principal and most proper worship of the Christian Church, and a constant commemoration of His Death;
3. As it is a means of covenanting and communicating with God and each other.

The Eucha-
rist, an ex-
press insti-
tution of
Christ.

1 Cor. xi.
26.

THE great moment and necessity of the Eucharist appears from this, that it is a positive institution of Christ. And this is what no Christian will, I presume, dispute with me. Christ Himself hath said, "Take, eat," and "Drink ye all of this;" and "do" or offer "this in remembrance of Me." And St. Paul, if not Christ, hath charged us thus "to shew forth the Lord's Death till He come." The reasonings of men have often lessened the force of Divine laws. For the first hundred years after the Reformation, so great a stress was laid on faith and hearing sermons, that all practical religion and external ordinances were in danger of being swallowed up in these two duties. Since that, the moral precepts of religion have been greatly magnified; but, I fear, some great men have much to answer for, in that they have extolled, first faith, and then obedience, or both of them together, in prejudice to this Holy Institution of the Eucharist, (to say no-

thing now of the other Sacrament). The primitive Christians SECT.
I. thought they exercised their faith by their frequent receiving the Eucharist; and to be ‘one of the faithful’ and ‘a communicant’ was, in their language, one and the same thing. In the Communion they exercised their charity both in giving and forgiving; in this ordinance they professed their innocence and sincerity in all parts of their duty, and their resolution of obedience for the future. If they had committed any gross sin, they were separated for a season from the Lord’s Table; and when they were admitted to it again, they believed that they there received the full and perfect remission of their sins: so that the exercise of their faith and obedience and repentance did all tend toward the Eucharist, and at last centre in it.

One great aim of some modern Divines has been to extol and heighten the value of those duties, which they call duties of eternal obligation, such as the love of God and our neighbour, sobriety, piety, and the like; and, on the other side, to lessen and depress such as concern the men of some ages only, such as Circumcision and the Passover and the seventh-day Sabbath, which were enjoined only to the Jews; and Baptism and the Eucharist, which were not in force until since Christ Jesus came into the world. But I am of opinion that, if we impartially search the Scriptures of the Old Testament, we shall find that Circumcision, the Passover, and Sabbath, were duties which God bound upon the consciences of the Jews with as much care and force as even the greatest moral duties; and if Baptism and the Eucharist are as necessary to Christians as Circumcision and other external ordinances were to the Jews, we shall see no cause to think them of lesser obligation than the greatest matters of the Gospel. In truth, there are many articles of the Christian Faith, which were not necessary to be believed before Christ came into the world, as that Jesus was the Son of God, and Very God; that He shall judge the quick and dead, &c., which were not necessary before our Saviour made them so; and yet this does not at all abate or lessen the necessity of our believing them: nor is the Eucharist less necessary to be practised by us, because it was a thing not required of the Father before our Saviour’s incarnation and death. It is true, that all duties, which

Though it
is not an
eternal
duty, yet a
necessary
one.

CHAP. cannot be performed without the help of other things or persons, cannot be so necessary as that a man shall eternally suffer for not doing them, when the reason why he does them not is, that he is destitute of those outward means, without which it is impossible to do them. To join in the public worship of the Church, and to give alms to others, and to hear or read God's Word, are certainly very necessary duties; and he who wilfully omits any of them must expect to be treated by God as a transgressor; nothing can excuse him but the want of outward means; and the same may be said of the Eucharist. And, in such cases, it is not any want of value in the duties themselves, but the impossibility of the performing them, that will excuse us. We are as much obliged to practise these duties as any other, and the neglect of them renders Christians liable to punishment, as well as the neglect of any other known duty; but no man is obliged to an impossibility.

The great
stress which
our Saviour
lays on this
duty, John
vi.
John vi. 53.

I have elsewhere^h shewed at large, that our Saviour's discourse in the sixth chapter of St. John's Gospel was by Him meant of eating His Flesh and drinking His Blood in the Eucharist; and that therefore, when He says, " Except ye eat the Flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His Blood, ye have no life in you," He makes the receiving of this Sacrament necessary to all who are capable of receiving it. It is true, none do, spiritually and to their own benefit, eat the Flesh of Christ, but they who receive It with faith and love and thankfulness and other holy dispositions, and especially with a sincere resolution of living in all respects as becomes the Gospel of Christ; and therefore, when Christ does so expressly require His disciples to eat His Flesh, He at the same time requires us to clothe ourselves with all those virtues and graces, which are necessary to this end. Therefore it is not a mere outward formality, upon which our Saviour there doth so earnestly insist, but eating and drinking the outward symbols with that preparation and devotion of mind, which befits so solemn and Divine an institution; and since our Saviour has laid so great a stress on this duty, when performed in a proper manner, it certainly becomes all humble Christians to submit their judgment to His.

The primitive Christians and ancient Fathers of the Church

^h See Part I. p. [457,] &c.

did not only believe the Eucharist to be very necessary to be received by all that are members of Christ's Church; but they grounded their judgment upon our Saviour's discourse in John vi., as I have formerly proved at largeⁱ. I shall not repeat what I have there said, but conclude this head with the words of St. Chrysostom^k, "As to come to the Eucharist rashly is dangerous; so not to partake of It is death and famine."

II. The moment and necessity of the Eucharist will appear, if it be considered as the principal and most proper worship of Christ's Church, and the constant commemoration of His Death. I put these two together as one and the same thing, viz., the principal and most proper worship of the Christian Church, and the constant commemoration of Christ's death: for it does not appear to me, that Christ did ever ordain any public worship for His disciples, but the Communion or Eucharist only. Prayer is a duty of natural religion. Christ is so far from being the first author of this sort of worship, that I suppose it was used by all men that ever pretended to religion. When Christ promises, that "if two agree upon earth as touching anything they shall ask, it shall be done for them," and speaks of "two or three, gathered together in His Name;" it is evident, that the whole discourse was directed to the Apostles only^l, and in those words He confers a privilege on them in matters relating to discipline and government. The promise there given of being "in the midst of them" is an assurance of His confirming what they should determine in things relating to the peace of the Church; and this promise was not intended to be fulfilled, until Christ had "sanctified Himself^m," or offered His Body and Blood in the Eucharist, and thereby "sanctified" or consecrated "them" to the Gospel-Priesthood, as Moses did Aaron by offering Leviticⁿ sacrifices: indeed, if we will speak strictly, then only we ask a thing in the name of Christ when we pray to God for it in the Communion-service. To this purpose the words of our

The Eucha-
rist the only
public, pro-
per Chris-
tian wor-
ship, and
praying in
Christ's
Name.

ⁱ See Part I. p. [488]—[500.]

^k N. p. 42. Ap.

^l Compare Matt. xviii. 1. with Mark ix. 35. In this last text it is said, Jesus called unto Him "the twelve;" therefore these are the "disciples," to

whom He spoke, Matt. xviii, and the only persons concerned in this whole discourse.

^m See John xvii. 17—19, and the Introduction to this Second Part.

C H A P.

II.

John xvi.
24.

Saviour deserve our consideration, which He spake upon His first instituting the Eucharistⁿ, “Hitherto you have asked nothing in My Name; ask, and ye shall receive.” Our Saviour had never before instructed them, how they were to pray “in His Name;” but now, when He instituted the Eucharist, He informs them, that the addresses made to God in that ordinance of His own founding should be favourably accepted, as being offered in a way authorized and established by Him.

John xvi.
23.

“Verily, I say unto you, whatever ye shall ask the Father in My Name, He will give it you.” And, indeed, it is reasonable to believe, that the Apostles did never make their solemn addresses to God, when two or three or more of them assembled together upon any Church-business, save in and by the Eucharist, after our Saviour’s Death and Ascension, and the descent of the Holy Spirit. Our Saviour Himself observes to them, that notwithstanding the assurance He had given them, that when any two of them agreed in any matter they should ask, when they were met in His Name, it should be done unto them; yet “hitherto they had asked nothing in His Name;” and He hints the reason of this in those words, “These things have I” formerly “spoken to you in parables,” in a more dark, obscure manner; “the time cometh, when I shall no more speak to you in parables, but shall shew you plainly of the Father.”

John xvi.
25.

And what He was to shew them of the Father was His readiness to hear them, when they should pray in His Name; and this appears by the next words, “At that day ye shall ask in My Name,” &c. And hereupon the Apostles acknowledge themselves fully satisfied in this point; for they say, “Lo, now speakest Thou plainly, and speakest no parable.” Now that they had heard our Saviour explain Himself concerning praying in His Name, which He had formerly spoken of more darkly and concisely, and seen Him administer the holy Sacrament, they thought themselves fully informed in this point; and, therefore, to pray in Christ’s Name is to offer up prayers in the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, as the learned Mr. Mede has long ago observed. And whereas He says,

John xvi.
29.

“In that day ye shall ask in My Name;” by “that day” He means after His ascension into heaven and sending of the Holy Ghost, when He “went to His Father,” when “their

John xvi.
16. 22.ⁿ See the Introduction.

heart should rejoice." For it is very improbable, to suppose SECT.
I. that the Apostles should commemorate this Sacrifice of Christ in the Eucharist, before the Sacrifice itself was fully completed; and this could not be, until He had entered into the Most Holy Place with His own Blood, and had given a proof of His Sacrifice being accepted, by sending down the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, as a signal from heaven, to let them know that their Master was exalted to God's right hand. It is very evident, that Christ Himself offered up the most earnest and momentous prayers for His Apostles and John xvii.
9—26. for all believers, in that very prayer which He offered at His first administration of the Sacrament; for it cannot in reason be doubted but that the whole seventeenth chapter of St. John's Gospel was a prayer used by Him in the institution of the Eucharist, though it must be confessed it is not easy to determine to which parts of the holy action every single clause of that most excellent prayer belongs; and if this could certainly be determined, it would give us better light to the more complete knowledge of this Divine mystery. But, I conceive, we know enough to determine us in this doctrine, namely, that Christ instituted no public worship but the Eucharist, and that to pray to the Father in His Name is to make our addresses to God in and by the commemoration of His Death.

It is very probable, that the most primitive Church knew The most
primitive
Church
made this
their con-
stant prin-
cipal wor-
ship.
Acts ii. 42. no other constant stated Christian worship but that of the Communion. We are assured that the Apostles and new converts "continued daily in the temple, breaking Bread ^o near the sanctuary." The preaching or "doctrine" of the Apostles, the "fellowship" or contributions toward the relief of the poor, and the "prayers" which are mentioned together with the breaking of Bread four verses before, were only looked upon as proper, if not necessary, attendants on the Eucharist, and do still make part of our own Communion-service. We are told, that the disciples of Troas "came together on the first Acts xx. 7.

^o I render *κατ' οἶκον* 'near the sanctuary,' or the priests' apartment in the temple; so it evidently signifies, Luke xi. 51, where Barachias is said to have "perished between the temple," the *οἶκος*, the sanctuary or priest's apartment, "and the altar." It is probable

that St. Luke means the upper room, in which Christ eat the Passover, instituted the Eucharist, and appeared to the Apostles after the resurrection: of which see Mede's Discourse on 1 Cor. xi. 22.

C H A P. day of the week to eat bread ;” this was the principal end of **II.** that assembly. And St. Paul, speaking of the Christian congregation at Corinth, uses the phrase of “ coming together^p ” or “ coming together in the church,” in the same sense as “ coming together to eat ;” which implies that this was their principal business when they met. “ To come together not for the better but for the worse,” and “ to come together for condemnation^q ” is the same thing with “ eating this Bread and drinking this Cup unworthily ;” which is a fair intimation, that ‘ coming together’ and ‘ eating’ were then inseparable things. It is indeed probable, as I before hinted, that the Sacrifice of the Eucharist was never offered by the Apostles, until they knew the principal Sacrifice of Christ’s Body had been finished by Christ’s appearing in heaven, and giving the signal of it by sending down the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost : therefore the hundred and twenty, before the descent of the Spirit, “ continued in prayer and supplication^r ” without any mention of the Eucharist. It is true, prayer sometimes implies the Eucharist, as I have elsewhere shewed^s; but if you take it in its usual sense, it only proves that the Church did not make the Communion their constant stated worship, before the day of Pentecost.

A daily
Eucharist
during the
Apostolical
age.

It seems probable, that there was a daily Eucharist, at least during the Apostolical age; for^t St. Clement of Rome^u mentions the “ continual Sacrifices ” in a place, where he is undoubtedly speaking of the Eucharist under the type of the Levitical sacrifices. And it is evident, that this practice continued till the time of Cyprian^x, who speaks of the Sacrament as daily administered and received. And it is well known that several of the Fathers did, by “ daily bread ” in the Lord’s Prayer, understand the Eucharist ; and it is very unreasonable to suppose, that their doctrine was contrary to their practice, as it must have been, if they did not daily receive it. It is true, they did not charge it as a necessary duty on all laymen to attend at the Altar every day of the

^p 1 Cor. xi. 33. Compare ver. 17, 18, with ver. 33.

^q Compare ver. 17, 34, with ver. 27, 29.

^r Acts i. 14. N.B. *προσευχὴ* may here signify the ‘upper room,’ where they were met, and the word *δεῖθετι* is

deleted by Dr. Mill, by the authority of three versions, four Fathers, and three MSS. beside the Alexandrian.

^s See Part i. p. [368.]

^t Ibid., p. [152,] &c.

^u b. p. I. Ap. I. 16.

^x g. l. p. 11, 12. Ap.

week ; but therefore they did, in some Churches at least, permit them who lived at a distance from the place of assembly, to carry home with them so much of the Sacrament as might suffice for several days following, as appears from some places in Tertullian^y, and long after him from St. Basil^z.

I see no reason to believe, that there was in the primitive Church of the first two hundred years any Common-Prayer or public devotions for the faithful people, but in the Eucharist only. Justin Martyr, indeed, mentions prayers between the sermon and the Eucharist ; but it is pretty plain that he means those prayers, which were offered in behalf of the penitents and catechumens, which are well known to have been used just at this juncture. The people did indeed keep Wednesdays and Fridays as station-days, and the more devout part of them did certainly meet together in the Church, and there put up their prayers to God ; and by what Tertullian^a says it is evident that the people were under no strict obligation to join in the Communion-service on these days, though it is evident that the Communion was then usually celebrated. But the prayers then used by the people before the Eucharist were not public open prayers, pronounced aloud, and offered with the united consent of the whole congregation ; but they were private devotions^b, left to the discretion of every single person, and for such favours and mercies as he himself most needed, or which he thought most necessary for others or for the public : and though very many did not join in the Eucharist, yet Tertullian justly reprobates them on this account. There are indeed public^c Prayers for the evening and morning in the Apostolical Constitutions, and the Bishop is required to hold constant assemblies for prayer twice a day. The Synod of Laodicea in the fourth century mentions prayers made publicly in the church at three and six in the afternoon. But in the age of Ignatius it was not so ; for he^d speaks of the Eucharist and Prayers of the Church as inseparable things. The heretics

No public worship properly Christian, but in the Eucharist.

^y i. p. 8. Ap. See also Part i. p. [343.]

rant, nisi quod proximis obstant? Immo prodendo petitiones suas, quid minus faciunt quam si in publico orent?

^z d. p. 23. Ap.

^a i. p. 8. Ap.

^b Tertull. De Orat., c. 13. Quid amplius referent isti qui clarius ado-

^c Ap. Const., lib. ii. c. 59.

^d h. p. 2. Ap.

C H A P. who abstained from the Eucharist, did by that means deprive themselves of the prayers too.

All of old
obliged to
receive
every
Lord's day.

However, what is more certain is, that the Eucharist was the constant stated worship of the solemn assembly on every Lord's day ; and, I suppose, there is not one single proof, that the Eucharist was ever designedly omitted in any Christian assembly on this day, for many hundred years after Christ. Justin Martyr describes the Christian worship in this manner ; that “on the day called Sunday all both in city and country meet together ; and after the Scriptures read, the sermon, and some prayers, Bread and Wine mixed with water is offered to the Bishop ;” and so he proceeds to give an account of the celebration of the Eucharist. Pliny, in his letter to the Emperor Trajan, gives this account of the Christians ; that on an appointed day they met together and said alternately a set form of words ; and took a Sacrament not to commit any villainy, not to rob, steal, &c. And for any one of the faithful to come to church on the Lord's day, and not to receive the Eucharist, was a thing unknown in the first ages. Justin Martyr assures us, that it was distributed to all that were present, and sent to all that were absent ; all Clergymen and faithful laymen, that came to church, but did not partake of the Communion, had a censure passed against them by the most ancient^e canons that are in being.

They, who
may re-
ceive, but
do not, are
a new sort
of Chris-
tians, and
not truly
Christian
worship-
pers.

There were in the primitive Church three ranks of laymen. First, the Catechumens, who had taken a liking to Christianity and attended the sermons and reading of the Scriptures, but, being born of Jewish or heathen parents, had not yet been baptized. The second consisted of Penitents who had been baptized and admitted to the Communion, but afterwards had been guilty of some great sin, and were on that account driven from the Lord's Table for a time, and not permitted to sit or stand in the same part of the church with the faithful, but near the catechumens in an apartment toward the doors of the church ; both these ranks of laymen were dismissed as soon as the sermon was ended, before the Eucharistical service began. The third and principal rank was that of the Faithful ; these alone were permitted to come

^e Can. Apost. 9. See p. 48. Ap.

to the holy Communion, and in these it was a fault to stay SECT.
I. away : and if any such person wilfully absented himself from church on the Lord's day, or if he came but turned his back on the Lord's Table, he was for a time shut out from all communion with the faithful ; he was turned down into the rank of penitents, until he had sufficiently deplored and promised to amend his fault. From which it appears, that there was in the primitive Church no such sort of persons allowed, as might communicate but did not ; we have now, indeed, such a rank of laymen as are capable of communicating and are frequently invited to it, but yet live in a neglect or contempt of this holy ordinance ; they are indeed exceeding numerous ; no such men were permitted to have a place among the faithful in the primitive Church. But now-a-days too many affect that which was accounted the greatest punishment in the best times of Christianity ; I mean, to continue many years together and perhaps their whole lifetime in a total abstinence from the holy Sacrament. And by this means it is very evident that they deprive themselves of the privilege of Christian worship ; for I suppose it is clearly proved, that the Eucharist is the proper peculiar worship of the Christian Church. Prayer is a duty of Natural Religion, and not peculiar to Christians. To pray in the Name of Christ is that manner of praying, which distinguishes the devotions of Christ's disciples from those of other men ; and then only we pray properly and strictly in the Name of Christ, when we offer up our prayers in and by the Eucharist.

And it will, I presume, be easily granted, that the commemoration of our Saviour's Death was for very just reasons made the most proper and principal worship of the Christian Church. As the Death of Christ was the most wonderful and beneficial thing that ever happened ; so it deserves to be the chief subject of our praises to God : and praise offered in a proper manner is justly esteemed the most excellent, rational part of Divine worship. The greatest honour that we can do to God the Father is, to acknowledge Him to be the source and origin of the Divine Son, that He sent Him into the world to be our Saviour and accepted the Sacrifice offered by Him for the sins of men ; and to do this is the first end of the

The commemoration
of Christ's
death de-
serves to be
the prin-
cipal worship
of His
Church.

C H A P. Christian Eucharist. Our Saviour, therefore, by making
II. this ordinance the most proper principal worship of His people, intended the most signal and high honour to be done to His Heavenly Father ; for I have proved and shall sufficiently prove, that it is our business in the Eucharist to “ shew forth ” Christ’s Death, first and principally to God, and in the next place to each other. And further, it does and will appear, that another intention of our Saviour in the Eucharist was, to have His own Death so effectually there commemorated, that they who duly join in the performing of it may be partakers of all the blessings, which by His Death were purchased for all mankind. It is therefore not only clear in fact, that Christ Jesus did make the commemoration of His Death the most proper and peculiar worship of His Church, but it appears from the nature of the Eucharist itself that it deserves so to be.

Covenanting and communicating, the same.

III. The moment and necessity of the Eucharist in general will appear, if it be considered as the means of our covenanting and communicating with God and with each other.

I join together ‘covenanting’ and ‘communicating’ with God, because I take them to be one and the same thing. Only I must give one caution, namely that, when I speak of covenanting, I do not mean the first entering into covenant with God, in order to bring ourselves out of that unhappy state in which we are by nature ; this is done by Baptism, not by the Eucharist ; but I mean the covenanting of those who are

Heb. x. 22. already baptized Christians. For they who will “ draw near to God ” must first have “ their bodies washed with pure water ; ” and what the Apostle means by ‘ drawing near to God ’ will be easily understood by those, who are already convinced that the Eucharist is the most proper Christian worship, in which we therefore make our nearest approaches to the throne of God : and St. Paul explains his own meaning in the following words, when he bids us “ hold fast the Oblation of our faith without wavering ; ” for I have elsewhere^g made it appear, that by “ the Oblation of our faith ” the Eucharist is meant. It is true, there is no privilege or favour conveyed to us in the

^f Ἀναγγέλλειν is the word used 1 Cor. xi. 26 ; the same word is found Deut. xxvi. 3, where our English trans-

lation runs, “ I profess this day to the Lord thy God.”

^g See Part I. p. [221.]

Eucharist, but what we first receive by Baptism ; yet we receive them in a much less degree in Baptism than in the Eucharist. In the first, we receive the remission of that guilt which we brought into the world with us, or of that which we contracted while we were in a state of nature, of Judaism, or [of] heathenism ; in the other, we have our pardon sealed for such sins as we have committed, since we were baptized Christians : and the sins of baptized Christians are not (ordinarily) forgiven, but in the Eucharist. In Baptism or Confirmation, (which is but a completing of that Sacrament) we have the first livery and seisin, if I may so say, of all the favours purchased by Christ ; in the Eucharist, we receive the continuance and improvement of them. By ‘covenanting’ therefore in this place, it is evident, I mean the assurances that God is pleased to repeat of His favours and blessings to Christian people ; and, on the other side, the assurances of duty repeated by Christian people toward God. And as there is no other rite or solemn action, by which baptized Christians can renew their covenant with God, but this of the Eucharist ; so by thus renewing the covenant, they maintain a constant communion with God. For what communion can we have with God in this life, but that which consists in a continued flowing of His favour towards us and of our duty toward Him ? and when I speak of communion with God, I suppose every one will thereby understand, that I mean not only with the Divine Father, but with the Son and Holy Ghost ; for I take it for granted in all my discourse on this subject, that we cannot have communion with one, but that we must have communion with all the three Divine Persons.

Now these assurances of Divine favour are given us, not singly or personally, but in our public capacity, as we are members of that great body, the Christian Church. It was the Church, which Christ purchased with His Blood, for which He gave Himself, and which is His flesh and bone ; this is that Body, of which He is the Head and Saviour, and which He fills with His graces and blessings. We are called to peace, and for that reason we are called in “one Body ;” therefore the salvation purchased by Christ is a common salvation, of which we cannot partake, but by uniting with that Body

These privileges not personal, but belong to us as members of the Church.
Acts xx. 28; Eph. v. 25, 30; v. 23; i. 23.
Col. iii. 15. Jude 3.

C H A P. of men, to which this privilege was granted. The Church
II. is that Spouse, whom Christ presents to Himself; and none
Eph. v. 27. can be living members of this Spouse, but they who are
most perfectly united to her, as limbs to the body; for be-
cause there is no covenant or communion among men more
strong or strict than that between a man and his wife,
therefore the holy writers do under this figure represent the
mutual alliance between Christ and His Church. But to
shew us that the union is somewhat greater and more perfect
than that between husband and wife, they do at other times
describe it by the conjunction of the head of a man to his
own body; and at the same time teach us, that we can re-
ceive no benefit from the Head, except we are members of
the Body.

In the Eu-
charist
only, the
Church
covenants
and com-
municates
with God.

Now he who desires to keep in perfect covenant and com-
munion with the mystical Body of Christ, which is His
Church, can do it by no other means but by joining in those
public actions, by which this covenant and communion be-
tween the Head and members is continued; and these actions
are, principally, the Eucharist with its appendages; for I have
already proved that this is the most proper Christian worship,
and by which therefore the union and correspondence be-
tween God and the Church are chiefly preserved and main-
tained. Faith and hope are indeed the invisible means, by
which they are brought together, and without which no
member can have true communion either with the Head or
the Body. An unbaptized Christian may have faith and hope
too (in some measure), yet he cannot be said to be in perfect
covenant and communion with God and Christ Jesus and
the Church. A Jew or heathen might of old, and may to
this day, hear our sermons and the reading of the Scriptures;
but the Eucharist being the proper and peculiar worship of
the Christian Church, none but baptized Christians can join
in it; and therefore, in this ordinance only, the Church does
perfectly exercise its privilege of covenanting and communi-
cating with its Head; there only the members do perfectly
covenant and communicate with each other. Therefore the

1 Cor. x. 17. Apostle having said that we are all “one Body,” he gives this
reason for it, “because we are all partakers of that one loaf.”
And if we would know, how we are made ‘one’ with Christ and

each other by the Eucharist, our Saviour answers this question in the words of institution, viz., "This is My Blood of the New Covenant," as St. Matthew and St. Mark express it; or "this Cup is the New Covenant in My Blood^h," according to St. Luke and St. Paul. The Apostle, last mentioned, does at another place call "the Bread, the Communion of Christ's Body, the Cup, the Communion of His Blood." By this he means, that God doth in this holy Sacrament impart to us the sum of all blessings and favours, which is the spiritual Body and Blood of Christ, and that we by receiving them do devote ourselves to the True God; and therefore cannot, without a contradiction to ourselves, "have fellowship with" or "drink the cup of devils;" which was the main thing that the Apostle had in his view in this chapter: and what very evidently follows from hence is, that by the Eucharist we do covenant and communicate with God and with each other. Nay, Christ solemnly affirms, "He who feedeth on My Flesh, and drinketh My Blood, dwelleth in Me, and I in him;" where, by "dwelling in him" that duly and frequently receives the Sacrament, He means the most perfect and constant communion with Him. And there is no intimation in the New Testament of any means of a baptized Christian's covenanting and communicating with God but in the Eucharist only. By faith and prayer and other acts of religion we do indeed perform our duty toward God; but I conceive that there is no other ordinance of religion but the Sacrament, in which God does impart anything to His Church. By Baptism God confers pardon and grace to particular men; but in the Eucharist, to Christian bodies and societies. In this He gives us the Body and Blood of His Son, not indeed in substance, but in life and power; and this Body and Blood of Christ do convey to all worthy receivers all the benefits of His Death. And, upon the whole, the Sacrament of the Eucharist is as necessary as the covenant between God and man in Christ Jesus; it is as necessary, as it is for us to have communion with God; for it does not appear that we can renew this covenant or continue this communion without the use of the Eucharist.

^h Luke xxii. 19; 1 Cor. xi. 25. Δια-θήκη, the word here used, does particularly signify 'a covenant,' not only in sacred, but among profane writers.

There is but one place, where it can signify 'a testament,' viz., Heb. ix. 16, 17.

CHAP. It is certain, that by nature we have no communion with God,
 II. nor can we have it by any other means but what Christ
 hath appointed. He Himself hath said, "No man cometh to
 John xiv. the Father but by Me;" "a judgment to condemnation is
 6; Rom. v. 16. 18. upon all men," and we are incapable of being relieved from
 this state by any other method, but that which Jesus Christ
 hath directed. We have no redress but from Him, Who hath
 taught us to deliver ourselves from this miserable state by
 entering into covenant with God by Baptism, and by renewing
 and continuing this covenant by the Eucharist. We cannot
 hope to attain eternal happiness by our own natural strength ;
 and if so, then it can be done by no other way but by cove-
 nant ; and if by covenant, then not without the Eucharist, if
 it can be had.

But that it may particularly appear how necessary it is to
 renew the Christian Covenant by the Eucharist, I will consider
 what is there mutually promised and agreed.

1. *On God's part.* 2. *On our parts.*

1. On God's part, there are three very great blessings
 assured to all worthy receivers, viz.

(1.) Pardon of past sins; (2.) Grace to amend our
 lives ; (3.) Eternal happiness.

Pardon
sealed to
Christians
in the Eu-
charist.

(1.) Pardon of past sins is a most necessary blessing,
 and is the first of those which the Gospel promises to us.
 Baptism was intended for this purpose, and we are taught in
 the best of Creeds to believe "one Baptism for the remission
 of sins ;" but our Saviour has provided a remedy for the sins
 of His disciples committed after Baptism, and this remedy is
 the Eucharist. Christ Himself assures us that the Cup in the

Matt. xxvi. 28. Eucharist is "His Blood shed FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS."

As the Cup is the covenant, so the first article of the cove-
 nant is forgiveness of sins. Upon which it is and ever was
 the belief of the most sound and understanding Christians,
 that we have our pardon sealed in the Sacrament, if we
 receive it with faithful, penitent, and obedient minds. St.
 Augustineⁱ, speaking of these mysteries, says, "In them is true
 remission of sins ;" and, according to St. Ambrose^k, "He who

ⁱ f. p. 31. Ap.

^k a. p. 26. Ap.

receives [the Eucharist] dies not the death of a sinner ; for ^{SECT.}
 this Bread is the remission of sins." The reader will observe —^I—
 that, in Ambrose's opinion, they that receive unworthily do
 not eat the Eucharist ; which was likewise Origen's¹ notion.
 Cyprian^m speaks of "the Cup of the Lord," as "relieving the
 sad and sorrowful heart, before oppressed with vexatious sinsⁿ,
 with the joy of Divine forgiveness." The most ancient
 Liturgy now in being teaches the Priest to express his ex-
 pectation^o, that they who partake of the Eucharist "may
 obtain remission of their sins :" and there are many passages
 to the same purpose in all the ancient Liturgies. The
 Papists, indeed, have for some hundred years past been
 obscuring this truth, by obliging men to receive from the
 Priest a full and peremptory absolution from their sins, before
 they permit them to receive the holy Sacrament of the Eu-
 charist ; but it does not appear that any such absolutions
 were used in the primitive Church, nor was there any other
 form of finally remitting the sins of penitents but by ad-
 mitting them to the Eucharist. The Bishop^p or Priest did,
 indeed, lay their hands on penitents, and pray that God
 would pardon them ; but they were not esteemed to be
 perfectly absolved until they had received the Sacrament.

(2.) Another article of the covenant, on God's part, is grace ^{Grace as-}
 to amend our lives. St. Paul, beyond all question, alludes ^{sured and}
 to the Sacrament ; when, speaking of Christians, he says, ^{given in}
 "We have all been made to drink into the same Spirit." Our ^{the Eucha-}
 blessed Saviour, after He had discoursed at large concerning ^{rist.}
 the eating His Flesh and drinking His Blood, gives His ^{1 Cor. xii.}
 disciples to understand, that He did not thereby mean any ^{13.}
 material thing wholly destitute of inward power ; for "the ^{John vi. 63.}
 words which I speak," or, the promises which I make, "they
 are spirit, and they are life ;" which was by the primitive Church
 believed to be an assurance of grace and the Divine Spirit to
 be communicated to all worthy receivers of the holy Sacra-
 ment. "We approach the mystical *Eulogies*," says Cyril of
 Alexandria^q, "and are sanctified by being partakers of the

¹ See Part I. p. [473,] &c.

^m m. 7. p. 13. Ap.

ⁿ [Johnson read *angentibus* ; the Benedictine text, used in the Appendix, has *augentibus*.]

^o cap. 52, 53. l. 41. Ap.

^p See Euseb. Hist. Eccl., lib. vi. c. 44.

^q l. p. 44. Ap.

C H A P. Holy Flesh and precious Blood of Christ.” Theodoret says^r,
II. “Christ does not change the nature” of the Bread and Wine,
 “but adds grace to nature.” Chrysostom speaks of a prayer
 in the Communion-service in his time^s, “that Divine grace
 lighting upon the Sacrifice” (that is, the Bread and Wine)
 “might, by that Sacrifice, inflame the hearts of all.” Gau-
 dentius says of this Sacrament^t, “It refreshes and sanctifies
 even them who consecrate it;” and^u he calls it “a sweet medi-
 cine, a perpetual security against the poison of the devil.”
 Cyril of Jerusalem^x says, “The Eucharist is distributed
 through our whole system to the profit both of body and
 soul;” and^y, “In the New Covenant, the heavenly Bread and
 the Cup of salvation sanctify both the soul and body; and as
 the Bread is fit for the body, so is the Word agreeable to the
 soul.” Firmicus asserts, that^z “It relieves them that languish,
 reclaims them who go astray, raises up those that are fallen:”
 Origen^a, that “It sanctifies them who use it with a wholesome
 purpose;” and^b that “It is profitable in proportion to our faith,
 and is a means of illuminating our minds.” St. Cyprian^c
 speaks of “fortifying the souls of Martyrs by the protection
 of the Body and Blood of Christ;” and by this he means
 administering the Eucharist to them, and supposes that it
 was intended to be “a safe-guard and protection to them
 who received it;” and he says^d, “The Cup of the Lord does so
 cheer those who drink it, as to make them sober, and reduce
 their minds to spiritual wisdom.” Clement of Alexandria^e
 affirms, that they who “partake of the Eucharist with faith
 are sanctified both in body and soul.” Tertullian expresses
 his opinion to the same purpose, when he says^f, “The body
 is fed with the Body and Blood of Christ, that the soul may
 be replenished with God;” by ‘God’ meaning the Holy Spirit.
 So the most ancient Liturgy^g prays for the descent of the
 Holy Ghost on the Bread and Wine, that the receivers “may
 be filled with that Holy Spirit, and become worthy of
 Christ.”

^r i. p. 46. Ap.^a a. p. 9. Ap.^s h. p. 38. Ap.^b f. p. 10. Ap.^t a. p. 30. Ap.^c l. p. 12. Ap.^u c. p. 30. Ap.^d m. 7. p. 13. Ap.^x h. p. 19. Ap.^e b. p. 7. Ap.^y d. p. 19. Ap.^f m. p. 8. Ap.^z p. 18. Ap.^g c. p. 53. l. 42. Ap.

(3.) A third thing promised, on God's part, in the Gospel-covenant and the Eucharist is eternal happiness. Our Saviour does very much inculcate this doctrine. He repeats it five or six times one after another, that "He who feedeth on this Bread shall live for ever;" not indeed always in the same words, but to the same sense: and, on the other side, He never did, in more express and solemn words, pronounce a sentence of condemnation against any sort of men than against those who neglect this holy food; "Amen, Amen, I say unto you, except ye eat the Flesh of the Son of Man, and drink His Blood, ye have no life in you." Nor are we to wonder, if Christ made something else, besides faith and obedience to the Moral Law, necessary to eternal salvation. Man, even in Paradise, had a positive law given him, over and above the laws of nature and reason, namely, "that he should not eat of the fruit of the tree of good and evil;" nay, if he had persisted in his obedience to this and all other laws, yet he could not by this means have attained eternal happiness, if he had not eat of the tree of life. If Man, by living in a constant course of obedience, without the use of any other means, might have secured to himself eternal life, this might have given him occasion to attribute his immortality to the virtue and power of his own righteousness and obedience; but, by making the use of the fruit of the tree of life necessary to render him immortal, God gave to Man a demonstration, that eternal life and perfect obedience are two things that have no necessary dependence on each other. For the same reason, He hath required Christians not only to believe and obey in other respects; but, in order to secure ourselves a happy resurrection, He directs us to feed on the Bread of Life, the holy Eucharist: for, by making this a necessary condition without which we cannot attain immortal happiness, He gives us a demonstration, that eternal life is the gift of God, and not the wages of our righteousness or obedience. When therefore our Saviour says, "He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life," the meaning is not, that faith alone is sufficient to salvation; but, that a true believer, by being a member of Christ's Church and enjoying the Eucharist, has the means of eternal life provided for him

SECT. I.

The Eucha-
rist, an as-
surance of
a happy
resurrec-
tion.John vi. 48
—58.

John vi. 47.

^h See Part I. p. [530.]

CHAP. by Christ Jesus, as Adam, by living in Paradise and having the fruit of the tree of life within his reach, might be said too to have eternal life. And it is very observable, how unanimous the ancient writers of the Church are, not only in asserting that this Sacrament is necessary to salvation, but, that it is a means, by which our bodies have a principle of a happy resurrection conveyed to them. This I look upon as a doctrine of very considerable moment, and to which our Saviour gives very great countenance in His whole discourse on this subject in John vi., but especially in those very ob-

John vi. 54, servable words, “ Whoso feedeth on My Flesh, and maketh My Blood his drink, hath eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day : for My Flesh is meat indeed, and My Blood is drink indeed.” Here our Saviour seems to magnify the excellence of the Sacramental meat and drink, and to ascribe to it the power of communicating the principles of a happy resurrection to all worthy receivers, (though not in such a manner as to exclude the necessity of His own immediate “mighty working.”) And that this was the universal belief of the greatest men in the purest ages of the Church will appear from the following authorities. Cyril of Alexandriaⁱ speaks of the Eucharist as the Heavenly Life-giving Sacrifice, “ by which death is annulled, and [by which] this corruptible flesh which is from the earth puts on incorruption.” He calls it^k “ the Body of the Word, Which quickens all things;” and^l “ because it is the Flesh of the Word, therefore it quickens all:” but more fully still^m, “ Christ, as God, helping our infirmities, sends a lively power into the gifts” (the Bread and Wine) “ lying in open view, and changes them so as to become His Flesh in efficacy, that we may so receive them as to have Life communicated to us, and that the Body of Life may be found as a Life-giving seed within us.” St. Chrysostom thus expresses his opinionⁿ; “ Because our carnal nature was dead by means of sin and destitute of all life, Christ introduced another diet, or leaven, as one may say, being the same in nature but free from sin and full of life, that being nourished with it and putting off our former dead nature we may

ⁱ e. p. 44. l. 9. Ap.^m m. p. 45. Ap.^k i. p. 44. Ap.ⁿ K. p. 42. Ap.^l l. p. 44. Ap.

through this diet receive a tincture of immortality ;” and he SECT.
I. wonders^o, that any body should irreverently receive “the Body of Christ, by which we live and have our being.” St. Augustine gives us, not his own single testimony only, but that of the whole Punic Church, in those memorable words^p ; “The Punic Christians call Baptism nothing but SALVATION, the Sacrament of Christ’s Body nothing but LIFE.” He calls this “an Apostolical tradition and an inborn principle^q of the Church ;” and afterwards adds, “What do they maintain, who call the Sacrament of the Lord’s Table LIFE, but that which was said, ‘I am the Bread of Life,’ and, ‘Except ye eat the Flesh of the Son of Man, ye have no Life in you?’” Ambrose tells his young communicant^r, “The food which you receive is the living Bread, Which descends from heaven, and ministers the substance of eternal life.” Ephrem Syrus^s gives the Eucharist the title of “The mysteries full of immortality.” Gregory Nyssen^t does at large assert this doctrine ; I will translate only a small part of it, viz., “The soul, being united to Christ by faith, has from thence the means of salvation ; but the body does, by another way, close and communicate with our Saviour.—For as a little leaven makes the whole lump like to itself ; so that Body” (he means the symbolical Body in the Eucharist), “which was by God yielded up to death, being conveyed into our [body], changes and converts the whole into itself,” &c. Epiphanius says^u, “The Bread is what we eat, the power in it is for the production of Life.” Hilary^v, “This is the cause of our life, that we have Christ Jesus by His Flesh remaining in our carnal selves.” Julius Firmicus^w speaks of the Eucharist as “the food, which imparts to mortal men the assurance of immortality ;” and adds, “Seek for the Bread, seek for the Cup of Christ ; that, frail earth being overcome, the human substance may be replenished with immortal provision.” Cyril of Jerusalem asserts^x, that “the Bread of the Eucharist is distributed into our system for the profit both of body and soul.” Athanasius^y

^o L. p. 42.^z a. p. 23. Ap.^p P. p. 36. Ap.^u d. p. 22. Ap.^q [The Author read *insitum* for *insti-*
tutum, which last has been restored in
the present Edition.]^x a. p. 20. Ap.^r g. p. 26. Ap.^y p. 18. Ap.^s a. p. 25. Ap.^z h. p. 19. Ap.^a a. p. 17. Ap.

CHAP. II. speaks of the Eucharist as "a preservative to eternal life;" and^b "We have in this life the first-fruits of that [which is to come], by partaking of the Flesh of our Lord, as He Himself hath said, 'The Bread which I shall give is My Flesh,' &c., for the Flesh of our Lord is a Life-giving Spirit." Clemens Alexandrinus tells us^c, that "to drink of the Cup of the Lord is to partake of His immortality." Irenæus is most copious on this subject; for, discoursing against the heretics who denied the resurrection of the body, he thus argues^d; "How can they say, that the flesh, which is nourished by the Body of the Lord and His Blood, should vanish into corruption?" and, "Our bodies, partaking of the Eucharist, are no longer liable to vanish into corruption." And again^e: "How can they say, that the flesh, which is nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ, and which is a member of Him, is not capable of the gift of God, which is eternal life?—And as a branch of a vine laid in the earth does in time produce fruit; and a grain of wheat, falling into the earth and dying, yet rises again with manifold increase by the Spirit of God; and afterwards, by the Divine wisdom, they, coming to the use of man and receiving the Word of God, are made the Eucharist, which is the Body and Blood of Christ: so our bodies, being nourished by the same [Eucharist], after they have been buried in the earth and dissolved in it, shall be raised again in their proper season." But no one teaches this doctrine more clearly than the holy Ignatius, who^f calls the Eucharist, "the One Bread, the medicine of immortality, the antidote against death and for eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Cyril of Alexandria could not assert this doctrine in the fifth century more expressly than Irenæus did the same in the second; nor does Irenæus more plainly assert it toward the latter end of the second century, than Ignatius did in the beginning of it.

Thus the terms of the Covenant, on God's part, do prove the great necessity of the Eucharist; for if pardon, grace, and eternal life, do depend on our duly administering and receiving this Sacrament, and if baptized Christians have these

^b b. p. 17. Ap.

^e g. p. 6. l. 14. Ap.

^c b. p. 7. Ap.

^f b. p. 1. Ap.

^d f. p. 5. l. 21. Ap.

promises there and nowhere else sealed to them, then it is SECT.
very evident that the Eucharist is as necessary, as these I.
blessings are, to our spiritual welfare.

2. If we consider the Covenant, on our parts, we shall still be more sensible of the necessity of the Eucharist. Now our part of the Covenant is, sincere obedience toward God, and mutual love and charity toward each other.

(1.) The main article in the Gospel-covenant, required on Obedience
our part, is sincere obedience : and since it is evident by the on our part
words used by our Saviour, that we are to eat this Bread and necessary
drink of this Cup as a "Covenant;" therefore, whoever partakes to be pro-
of this Sacrament, does thereby profess to stand to his part of mised, as it
it, and therefore to be in a full and steady purpose of walk- is in the
ing in all the commandments of God ; for otherwise he does Eucharist.
not consider and use it as a "Covenant." None therefore can be worthy receivers but they, who come to the Lord's Table with sincere obedience or with sincere repentance. Christ does absolutely require either the one or the other ; and, to lay the stronger obligations upon us, He commands us to eat His Flesh and to drink His Blood, and thereby to make our profession of obedience or at least of repentance. And this was the only proper course He could take to lay His disciples under a necessity to preserve their covenant with God, (I mean a necessity without compulsion :) we either must profess ourselves His disciples by eating this Bread and drinking this Cup, and by doing this we must also declare our unfeigned resolutions of keeping all His other laws ; or else we must own that we are not His disciples, that we do not profess obedience to His laws, and therefore forbear to communicate in this Sacrament ; and that, by consequence, we are in a state of sin, and that the wrath of God abideth on us. It is vain for men to say, that they do obey or do repent, but do not think fit to make profession of it by receiving of the Eucharist ; for, it is certain, the neglect of this one duty is sufficient to render all that we do ineffectual ; for Christ Himself hath said, " Except ye eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, ye have no life in you." So that Christ not only absolutely requires us to obey or repent, but likewise to make profession of our obedience or repentance by doing this in remembrance of

CHAP. Him, if it be not impossible for want of outward means.
II. Christ, by making the use of the Sacrament so very necessary, intended to lay His disciples under the strongest obligations to obedience; and it is certainly proper and necessary, that all men should be sensible of their duty, and should openly profess this sense, and bring themselves under the most forcible ties for the performance of it; and Christ designed to do all this at once, by expressly charging us to feed on His Sacramental Flesh and Blood. And it is very vain and wicked, on the other side, to pretend to lay hold on the Covenant, and to communicate, while we are in a state of disobedience or impenitence; for they, who do this, do certainly "eat and drink their own damnation," by pretending to covenant and communicate with God, while they are rebels in their hearts; or drawing nigh to Him with their lips, while their hearts are far from Him: so that, in fine, it is necessary not only in other particulars to comply with the Gospel-covenant, but to make open profession of it by the Communion; and it is necessary, that the Communion should be received with faithful and obedient dispositions. Wilfully to abstain from the Eucharist, or to receive it with hypocritical or profane minds, is dangerous and fatal; and it is therefore a very important and necessary duty to communicate worthily, and in such a manner, as that Christ may be one with us and we with Him.

And
charity,
which is
necessary
for commu-
nion with
each other.

Matt. v. 23,
24.

(2.) But mutual charity of Christians toward each other and toward all men is so singular a duty, so distinguishing a badge of Christ's disciples, that it would be a fault not to take particular notice of it. This is that which our Saviour particularly requires of us, whenever we make our approaches to God's Table, in those excellent words; "If thou bring thy gift to the Altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee; leave there thy gift before the Altar, and go thy way, first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." By this He obliges all Christians that have done wrong, to make satisfaction, and to use all proper means to procure a reconciliation, before they dare to offer their gift, or present their alms or oblations at the Communion-table; and by several of His other lessons, He has obliged them who are wronged, to forgive the injury,

when the party who did it turns again and repents : and by SECT.
I. this means Christ designed to make the Eucharist a means — not only of communicating with God but also with one another, and to make the Sacrament of His Body and Blood a bond of universal peace and amity. And all, sure, will agree with me, that it was proper that our Saviour should lay upon men the strongest obligations to peace and holiness, and I suppose He could not do more to this purpose than He has actually done, by obliging men to receive this Sacrament, and by obliging them to do it with holy and peaceable intentions and resolutions ; I mean, He could not have done more, unless He had used direct force and compulsion.

CHAP. II. SECT. II.

Of the great moment and necessity of the Eucharist considered as a Sacrifice.

IN affirming and proving that the Eucharist is a proper Sacrifice, I have not been at all upon the reserve, because I have had a cloud of witnesses, even among the Reformed, that have borne me out as to this particular : but, in speaking of the necessity of it, it will become me to tread more warily ; because, the most eminent vouchers of this truth among us being now dead, without having expressly delivered their sentiments concerning the importance of this doctrine, I am forced here to go by myself. I am very sensible, that if I should advance the necessity of the practising the Eucharist as a Sacrifice, in such a manner as to lay myself open to a prosecution, I have enemies enow, that are both able and willing to take the advantage ; therefore I shall not proceed in the positive way, but only desire my reader to consider,

I. Whether the Eucharist, having been instituted as a Sacrifice by Christ, ought not, for that reason, to be used as a Sacrifice by us ?

II. Whether the Eucharist can be esteemed and used as the principal service and worship of God's Church, if it be not esteemed and used as a Sacrifice ?

CHAP. III. Whether the Eucharist can be the most proper method
 II. of Christians' communicating and covenanting with God and
 each other, if it be not a Sacrifice? And,

IV. Whether the symbols can be truly consecrated, without being offered to God?

Divine institutions
 not to be altered by
 us.

I. It seems to be very probable, that all institutions of Christ are to be used and practised according to the pattern and directions which He gave us. Protestants, for instance, seem agreed, that in the Eucharist we ought always to eat and drink the symbols as well as to consecrate them; because Christ did not only bless the Bread and Cup, but said, "Eat this, Drink this." They all seem to consent in this, that the Cup is to be given to all the communicants, because Christ said, "Drink ye all of this." To alter the institution of Christ in these particulars would be thought to be an impious profanation by all that have a true zeal for the ordinances of Christ, of which number I profess myself to be. Now if Christ did give the Bread to God as His Sacramental Body, and pour out the Wine as His Sacramental Blood for the remission of sins; if He did declare His Body to be now given, His Blood to be now shed, when He first administered this Sacrament to the Apostles; then it seems to me that we are to do the same, if we are to do what Christ did, when He first instituted the Eucharist. If indeed it can be proved, that Christ did mean to say no more than, that His Body should hereafter be given or offered to God, that His Blood should be hereafter shed, then I will grant, that this is no proof of the necessity of offering the Bread and Wine as the figures of His Body and Blood. But if this cannot be done, then it well deserves the consideration of all sober Christians, whether they, who celebrate the Sacrament without offering the symbols to God, do fulfil the institution of Christ; and this consideration is of the greater weight, because the ancient primitive Church did universally consent in this practice, and did believe that they had the authority of Christ for so doing, as I have shewed in the First Part of this work. If the offering of the Bread and Cup in the Eucharist be the institution of Christ, all sound Christians will agree with me, that all the authority of men and angels combined together cannot alter it.

II. The second question is, whether the Eucharist can be S E C T.
II.
 esteemed and practised as the principal worship and service Sacrifice,
the prin-
cipal worship
of God's
Church.
 of God's Church, if it be not practised as a Sacrifice. That it is the principal worship and service of God's Church is, I suppose, sufficiently proved in the last section: and now, if it do further appear, that the most excellent worship of God's Church has ever been Sacrifice, then it may seem to follow, that if the Eucharist be not used and practised as a Sacrifice, it cannot be the most excellent worship. If indeed God have varied in this particular, and declared that Sacrifice is not the most excellent worship under the Gospel, though it were so before, then it is owned that this argument is of no force; but if it were in all former ages declared to be the principal worship of His Church, and if He have revealed nothing to the contrary under the Gospel, then perhaps even judicious men may be of opinion that the Eucharist cannot be the principal and most excellent worship, unless it be used and esteemed as a Sacrifice; especially when it is considered, that God is so far from having declared that He would have all men cease to worship Him by sacrifice, that His own Son taught us to sacrifice, when He ordained the Eucharist, which I suppose I have already proved. Now that I may give some light to my reader in this particular, I will shew what seems to carry a fair degree of probability with it, viz.

1. That God did, either by the light of nature direct, or by express revelation first command, or by His approbation confirm and establish, the worshipping of Him by Sacrifice.

2. That He did direct, command, or establish it, as the principal worship, which He required.

3. That God did never wholly abolish Sacrifice, and that therefore it still remains to be the principal worship due to Him from His Church.

1. That God did, either by the light of nature direct, or by Sacrifice,
instituted
by Divine
authority.
 express revelation command, or by His approbation confirm and establish, the worshipping of Him by Sacrifice. I see no occasion for any man positively to determine, by which of these methods God was pleased first to settle the practice of

C H A P. **II.** **Sacrifice.** It seems sufficient to say, that Sacrifice has been the perpetual worship practised by God's Church and settled by a Divine authority ; that all pious people, before Christ, did worship God by Sacrifice, is so well known by all that read the Bible, that it will be perfectly needless to enter into the proof of it. That the Jews sacrificed by God's express command, there can be no doubt ; that the ancients, from Abel to Moses, did offer sacrifice, is very clear ; but upon what principles they did it, is not altogether so certain. Here there are three opinions which deserve to be considered :

Perhaps by the law of nature. (1.) The first is that of some ancient Christian writers, who believed that Abel, Noah, and the other Patriarchs, offered sacrifice by the direction of their reason, or by the light of nature, or an instinct of conscience. And that this was their opinion is confessed ^g. I believe all will agree with me, that no law of nature was ever more universally received and practised among all mankind, than this of Sacrifice. We are sure it began in the infancy of the world, soon after Adam's removal out of Paradise, if not before ; and the use of it was continued amongst all mankind until the coming of Christ ; and our Saviour was never, by the Christians of the first ages, thought wholly to have abolished Sacrifice. If we were not assured by Scripture that Abel and Noah sacrificed, yet we must in reason believe that this way of worship came from the first parents of mankind ; for it will otherwise be next to an impossibility to shew, how it should come to be the universal practice of all civilized nations.

Men might reason themselves into the use of Sacrifice. But they, who deny that we have any ideas or notions of God or His worship written on our minds by nature, may demand, how men could reason themselves into the use of Sacrifice ? And I cannot think that there is any great difficulty in this ; for all who believed that God governed the world, and that they received all the good things they had from Him, and that by sin they provoked His anger, could not but use all proper means to express their thanks to Him, and to procure His favour ; especially when they had reason to think, that they had forfeited it by any wilful transgression of His Law. It may be thought, that praise and prayer might be sufficient to these ends ; but the ancient people might

^g Outram de Sacrific., p. 7—11.

think it reasonable to express the thanks and desires of their hearts by actions as well as words, as justly supposing that actions, especially if they are expensive and magnificent, do give a greater proof of the earnestness of our thoughts than bare words can do. The ancients might think that they could not better declare the sense they had of God's mercies and their wishes of obtaining His favour, than by offering to Him a part of the best they had. And all who believe the Scriptures, and yet think that Sacrifice was an invention of men, must suppose that the ancient people were led into the use of Sacrifice by some such notions as these ; and though they, in their modern wisdom, may think these reasonings very weak, yet they must be forced to allow that the great and infallible Judge, Who seeth not as they see, did allow and approve these reasonings ; for He effectually declared His gracious acceptance of them. If nothing indeed could be said to be sacrificed but what is burnt in the fire, then it cannot well be conceived how natural reason could direct men to sacrifice. Reason can no more direct us to give a thing to God by putting it into the fire, than by throwing it into the water. But it has been shewed, that burning is not the act, whereby a thing is offered to God, but by which He declared His acceptance of it. And since some of the ancient people sacrificed without fire, therefore it is possible that they might reason themselves into this practice. The Persians thought it sufficient to lay what they sacrificed in a clean place ; and even some of them, who used altars, yet put no fire on them, as hath been already shewed.

(2.) The most prevailing opinion among the best Divines of later ages is, that Sacrifice was instituted by an express revelation of God to Adam and his children. If we could depend on the authority of the LXX Translators, this point would be very clear ; for the words of God to Cain, according to them^h, should be thus turned, viz., "If thou hast offered rightly, but hast not divided rightly, hast thou not sinned?" For by this it seems evident, that God had not only prescribed the manner of offering sacrifice, but the proportion to be observed in dividing it betwixt Himself and the offerers ; and it must be owned to be impossible by human reason to assign

Others
think it a
Divine
positive in-
stitution ;
which is
most pro-
bable.

^h Gen. iv. 7, οὐκ ἔαν ὅρθῶς προσενέγκης, ὅρθῶς δὲ μὴ διέλης, ημαρτεῖς,

CHAP. II. any proportions in dividing the sacrifice between God and the priests and people. And many learned men do approve of this translation, in particular Isaac Vossius and Father Simon; nay, St. Paul seems to countenance it, when he says, "Abel offered more sacrifice than Cain¹," for the word 'excellent' is not in the Greek.

The two former sup-positions more rea-sonable, than that it was in-vented by rude men.

I conceive, that all who have any regard for revealed Religion must own, that Sacrifice was first enacted by the Divine will, and taught to the first parents of mankind either by the light of nature or by express revelation. For otherwise it is not to be conceived, that Abel, who is proposed to us as an example of faith and piety, should have presumed to offer it. It is certain, that during his life-time there was a settled intercourse between God and man. Adam was yet alive, who had a frequent correspondence with the other world; when it is evident, that God did by an audible voice call Cain to account for the murder, of which he had been guilty, and gave a charge to all men that they should not murder him; when Cain was permitted to expostulate with God concerning the grievousness of his punishment; certainly it cannot be believed, that Adam and Abel either were not permitted to inquire of God what sort of worship would be most acceptable to Him (if they did not know it before by their own natural light), or that they should of their own head choose a way of worship, without consulting God or receiving His instructions, when they might have had them for asking. Will-worship is thought blameable in us; but it was certainly more blameable in them, who could not want an opportunity of receiving directions from God Himself. And while God did of His own free grace and favour so frequently communicate His will to man; it can scarce in reason be supposed, that He would not of His own accord inform him in that way of worship, which was most agreeable to His own will; which was the thing, which it chiefly concerned man to know.

If it were a human in-vention, yet it is estab-lished by Divine au-thority.

(3.) But the Deists can allow no other beginning to Sacrifice but from the simple rude conceits of the ancient people; and I find some late Divines joining with them in this particular. What end they propose to themselves in

¹ Heb. xi. 4, πλείονα θυσίαν Ἀβελ παρὰ Καίν προσήνεγκε.

doing this, the Deists know very well; the others I am SECT.
II. persuaded can have none but this, namely, to bring Sacrifice into contempt, and especially that of the Eucharist; but in charity I believe they are not sensible, that by making Sacrifice a rude fond invention of men, they do very much lessen the wisdom of the whole Gospel-dispensation, the sum of which is this; that the Son of God took our nature upon Him, in order to render Himself a Sacrifice for the sins of men. And the Deists know very well, that if Sacrifice itself owe its beginning to the devices of the dark and ignorant ages of the world, this will be a means to degrade and bring into contempt the Sacrifice of Christ Jesus and the Redemption wrought by it; for, upon this supposition, it must be said, that God sent His Son into the world to die as a Sacrifice for sin, in compliance with a fond notion of the simple and rude ancestors of mankind, that Sacrifice was the most proper method of pacifying God and reconciling Him to sinful men. It is much more for the honour of this Divine dispensation to assert, that Sacrifice took its rise from the will of a most wise and just God, Who, by a decree past from the beginning of the world and soon after revealed to mankind, resolved, that Sacrifice should be the means whereby men should seek His favour; and that, therefore, in the fulness of time, His Son should restore lost mankind to His grace and mercy by the Sacrifice of Himself. And I conceive, that he who makes the Scripture the measure of his faith must believe, that God had actually decreed that Sacrifice should be the means whereby men should render Him propitious to themselves, before He declared that the Seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head. For there can be no doubt but that the meaning of this declaration is, that Christ, by the Sacrifice of Himself or by His Death, should overcome him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and if Christ were to do this by the Sacrifice of Himself, then God must have, before this, decreed, that Sacrifice should be the means of obtaining His favour; for the other decree of the Sacrifice of Christ is grounded on this decree last mentioned, that Sacrifice should be the means of obtaining His favour. And since He had determined this within Himself, it is reasonable to believe,

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II.

that He did also make it known to men ; and the practice of Cain and Abel, in offering sacrifice to Him soon after, makes it highly probable that He did so.

Sacrifice,
the settled
Divine wor-
ship, before
Moses' Law
was given.

But let it be granted, or rather supposed, that Sacrifice was the invention of simple ignorant men ; yet still it must be granted too by all that believe the Scripture, that God did approve this manner of worshipping Him, when performed aright ; for “God had respect to Abel, and to his sacrifice,” or offering : and when Noah offered his burnt-offerings, “the Lord smelled a sweet savour,” that is, He was so far pleased with it as to accept it, and thereupon to declare that He would “no more curse the earth for man’s sake.” And the signal approbation which God gave of the sacrifices offered by these two eminent servants of God, was a very great encouragement to other men to use the same method of making their addresses to the Divine Majesty ; and by this means the practice of Sacrifice might be confirmed and established. It is certain in fact, that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Melchisedec, Job, and Jethro, did offer sacrifice to God ; and if they had no other grounds to hope for acceptance, but from the examples of Noah and Abel, yet it cannot be said, that by using this way of worship they acted without a warrant from Almighty God.

But we are further assured, that God did, once at least, expressly command Abraham to sacrifice to Him ; for when

Gen. xv. 9. He says, “Take unto Me an heifer of three years old,” &c., by ‘taking’ He means ‘offering,’ as all expositors do, I think,

Job xlvi. 8. agree : and He positively charges Eliphaz to “offer Him seven bullocks and seven rams.” It is evident, that Sacrifice was looked on as the established worship of God’s Church, while the Israelites were in Egypt ; for ‘to serve God’ and ‘to sacrifice to Him’ are two phrases signifying the same thing in those

Exod. iii. 12. 18. texts of Scripture, “Ye shall serve God at this mount,” and “Let us go, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God ;”

Exod. x. 25, 26. and in those words of Moses to Pharaoh, “Thou must give us sacrifices and burnt-offerings unto the Lord our God ; for of [our cattle] must we take to serve the Lord our God, and we know not with what we must serve the Lord, until we come thither.” And it is certain that God’s promise was ful-

Exod. xxiv. 5—8. filled, and the Israelites did actually sacrifice at this moun-

tain, before the Levitical ordinances were given. While the SECT.
II. Israelites were in Egypt, they might justly be afraid to sacrifice to God in public; but that they did it in secret, there is no reason to doubt. Not Sacrifice itself was first established Wisd. xviii.
9. by the Levitical Law, but those numerous rites and ceremonies which were to be used in doing of it; and, especially, the restraint of Sacrifice to one place only, viz., the door of the tabernacle. Nay, it is certain, that if the Israelites had, during their abode in Egypt, thought themselves under no obligation to offer sacrifice to God, yet they must think themselves bound to do it for the future by virtue of an express law given to them, before the Levitical ordinances had ever been mentioned, before any intimation had been given them of God's intention to have one peculiar tabernacle for the performance of this worship; nay, before the making of the golden calf, which is commonly thought to have given occasion to the whole Levitical way of worship. The law, meant by me, is that which was delivered immediately after the Ten Commandments, viz., "An altar of earth Exod. xx.
24. thou shalt make unto Me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt-offerings, and thy peace-offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record My Name, I will come unto thee, and bless thee:" and this is so far from being a Levitical law, that it was plainly revoked by that Law; for here the Jews were to make an altar of earth, and were to sacrifice, in every place where God should record His Name, on such an altar; but by the Levitical Law there was but one altar of burnt-offering allowed, and that made of Exod.
xxxviii. 1,
2; xii; xiii.
2; Numb.
xviii. 17;
Deut. xv.
19, 20. wood overlaid with brass. Nay, the Passover and the firstlings were expressly enjoined to be offered to God before or upon the people's going out of Egypt, and yet were as real sacrifices as any that were ever slain in the temple of Jerusalem. From which it is very evident, that God had, by a very plain revelation of His will, confirmed and established this practice of offering sacrifice, before He enacted the Levitical Law: and that, therefore, if it should be granted without any proof, that Sacrifice was first invented by men; yet it cannot be denied, that it was afterwards commanded by God. I proceed to shew,

2. That God did establish Sacrifice as the most excellent

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God intended it to be the most excellent worship.

and prevailing way of worship. Now there is no way of worship to be compared with Sacrifice, but only that of prayer and praise, presented to God with a pious heart and voice; and this is now commonly magnified, as the only spiritual and acceptable service; but to demonstrate that this is only a vulgar error, I shall prove these two things,

1. That Sacrifice implies prayer and praise;
2. That it adds force and power to prayer and praise, and makes them the more prevailing with God.

1. As implying prayer and praise.

(1.) Sacrifice implies prayer and praise, that is, whatever material thing was ever offered to God, the intention of the person who offered it was, to express his desire that God would either grant him some particular favour, or, in general, that God would grant him whatever he stood in need of; or else it was, to declare his thanks and testify his gratitude for some mercy which he had received. This was the judgment of Philo^k, the very ancient Jew; who says, that all, who offer sacrifice, do it "by way of prayer or thanksgiving;" and, speaking of the very ancient people, he says, "They betook themselves to thanksgiving and prayer, by sacrifice^l." It is upon this account, that the temple, which is in one place "the house of sacrifice," is at another place called "the house of prayer." It is a mistake in any man to suppose, that the prophet Isaiah, when he calls the temple an house of prayer, means any other prayer but what was employed in sacrifice. He explains his meaning by those words in the same verse, "Their burnt-offerings and oblations shall be accepted on Mine altar;" so that 'to accept sacrifice' and 'to hear prayer' were phrases of the same signification. The most learned Outram^m has so largely and effectually proved this, both from the Jewish and heathen writers, that it will be altogether superfluous for me to dwell any longer upon it. And the Jews as well as Gentiles did, not only with secret and silent wishes and the inward devotion of their minds, but by forms of devotion uttered by word of mouth, declare

^k Philo, De Animalib. sacrificio idon.

^l [Εἰ γάρ βούλοιτό τις ἔξετάζειν ἀκοιθῶς τὰς αἵτιας ἐν ἔνεκα τοῖς πρώτοις

ἔδοξεν ἀνθρώποις ἐπὶ τὰς διὰ θυσιῶν εὐχαριστίας ἄμα καὶ λιτὰς ἐλθεῖν, κ. τ. λ. p. 240.]

^m Outram, De Sacrif., p. [235—246.]

2 Chron.
vii. 12;
Isa. lvi. 7.

their meaning in bringing the sacrifice to be offered. This SECT.
II. will appear sufficiently evident to him who peruses the authorities I have elsewhereⁿ produced concerning offering sacrifice by prayers. It is therefore impossible in the nature of things, that prayer and praise without sacrifice can be better than with it; because he who sacrifices as he ought does at the same time pray to God and praise God, and therefore offers what commonly goes by the name of ‘spiritual sacrifice;’ and, by doing this, he does all that can be done with heart and voice, and by this alone equals the devotion of him who offers nothing but words and thoughts. But then he does something more too; he offers such a material sacrifice as God requires. And,

(2.) Material sacrifice was designed to add force to prayer and praise, and make them more prevailing with God; and is therefore more excellent and effectual than bare prayer and praise, proceeding from the mouth and heart: and it is highly unreasonable, and is an impeachment of the wisdom and goodness of God, to suppose that He would establish a practice, or even countenance it, which put the worshippers to a very considerable charge to no purpose at all. It is, I conceive, granted by all, who confess there is a God Who governs the world, that prayer and praise is a worship which natural light instructs men to pay to Him. Now if these are as excellent and prevailing with God, when offered singly and apart, as when joined with material sacrifice, it will be utterly unaccountable, why God should institute or approve a way of worship, attended with so much expence and trouble. The Psalmist desires of God, that “his prayer might be set forth in His sight as the incense; and that the lifting up of his hands might be as the evening sacrifice;” but who ever wished that his sacrifice might be as acceptable as prayer? The ninth hour was an hour of prayer; and the reason of it was, because then the evening sacrifice was offered in the temple. Elijah chose this time for praying for fire from heaven to consume the bullock, thereby to convince the people that the Lord was God. The incense^o was always

ⁿ See Chap. I. Sect. vi.

^o Ainsworth on Exod. xxvii. 21, has the following words from one of the

Talmuds, viz., “The trimming of the five lamps was before the blood of the daily sacrifice; and the blood of the

Psalm cxli.
²

1 Kings
^{xviii.}

C H A P. burnt immediately after the slaying the morning and evening
II. sacrifice ; and Judith chose this time to offer up her prayers
Judith ix. 1. too ; as also the people generally did by an established cus-
Luke i. 10. tom, as appears not only from St. Luke, but from the son of
Eccles. l. Sirach ; who, having described the daily sacrifice, and having
14—19. related how “they finished the service, and poured out
 the drink-offering at the foot of the altar,” adds, “Then
 shouted the sons of Aaron, and sounded the silver trumpets ;
 then all the people together hasted, and fell down to the
 earth upon their faces, to worship the Lord God ; and the
 people besought the Lord by prayer.” While the flesh of
 the sacrifice was burning upon one altar, and the fume of
 the incense ascending from the other, was the proper time
 for prayer ; because sacrifice was intended to enforce other
 devotions, and render them more effectual and prevailing
 with God. For this reason the altar was thought the most

Psalm xxvi. 4. proper place for all public prayer. Thither David went to
6, 7; xliii. “shew the voice of thanksgiving, and to tell of God’s wondrous
 works ;” this was the place he chose, at which to exercise the
 duty of praise with vocal and instrumental music ; so he
 himself informs us, in saying, “I will go unto the altar of
 God, and on the harp I will give thanks unto Thee, O God,
1 Kings viii. 22. 54. my God.” And Solomon did at the same place offer the
 most solemn prayer of dedication ; for he expected that his
 prayers would find the better acceptance by virtue of the
 sacrifices there daily offered, and especially of those which
 he offered just before this prayer, which were so many that
 they “could not be numbered for multitude.” It could be for
 no other reason, that men, when they were under any pre-
 sent difficulty, did not think it sufficient to pray, but to pro-
 mise, that if they were vouchsafed a deliverance from their
 present troubles, they would offer sacrifice to God ; which
 could be done upon no other foundation than this, that
 Sacrifice was of greater power with God than bare prayer.
 Nay, it appears from this, that Sacrifice, before it was actually
 offered, and only sincerely intended and promised, might
 move God to grant the petitions of His people, and that

daily sacrifice before the trimming of the two lamps ; and the trimming of the two lamps before the burning of incense.” [The reference given is to the Babylonian Talmud, in Yoma, c. 3. fol. 33.]

prayer, without such a vow, was not so acceptable as with it; SECT.
II. and it is well known, that all mankind did of old agree in —— these notions and practices, the Gentiles as well as the Jews. Nay, when the Jews were under a disability of approaching to God's altar, and by captivity transplanted into countries many hundred miles distant from Jerusalem, yet they are directed to make their prayers toward this place of sacrifice; ^{1 Kings viii. 44. 48.} and the heathen^p, when they had nothing to offer, enforced their prayers by reminding their gods of the sacrifices, which they had formerly presented at the altar. And as it was the priest's office to bless the people; so it deserves our particular observation, that the stated time for doing this was immediately after he had finished the sacrificial solemnity: “Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people, and blessed ^{Lev. ix. 22.} them, and came down from offering the sin-offering and the burnt-offering and the peace-offerings.” This was the first time of Aaron's offering sacrifice, and was designed as a pattern of his ministrations for the time to come. And after the most solemn Passover kept by King Hezekiah and his people, and the magnificent sacrifices of a thousand bullocks and seven thousand sheep provided by that religious king, and as many bullocks and ten thousand sheep offered at the expence of the princes, we read, that “the priests, the ^{2 Chron. xxx. 27.} Levites, arose, and blessed the people; and their voice was heard, and their prayer came up to God's holy dwelling-place, even to heaven.” So the son of Sirach concludes his description of the priest's offering sacrifice, with these words; “He went down, and lifted up his hands over the whole con- ^{Ecclesiasticus I. 20, 21.} gregation, to give the blessing of the Lord with his lips: and they (the people) bowed themselves to worship the second time, that they might receive the blessing from the Most High.” By this is fairly intimated, that by sacrifices duly offered men take the most effectual course to draw down blessings from heaven upon their own heads, and that the priest's power of blessing the people is grounded on that of offering sacrifice; and that for this reason the priest's “ministering” to God at the altar does in the Scripture-language^q

^p So Electra in Sophocles: Electra, ver. 1376.

^q Αφ' ὅν ἔχοιμι λιπαρεῖ πρὸύστην χερὶ.

^r Αναξ Ἀπολλον, Ἰλεως αἴτουν κλύε,
Ἐμοῦ τε πρὸς τούτοισι, οὐ σε πολλὰ δῆ

xxiii. 13.

^s See Deut. x. 8; xxi. 5; 1 Chron.

CHAP. lead the way to “blessing the people” in God’s Name. And^r we are assured that the practice of the Jewish priests agreed with this notion; for their time of blessing the people was just after the daily morning-sacrifice. And it is observable, that^s God first instructed Moses, and he informed his brother Aaron in the form and manner of blessing the people, just before the noble and magnificent oblations and sacrifices were brought by the princes of the congregation immediately before Aaron’s consecration, and was offered by him presently after it; for this was the first remarkable occasion which Aaron had to pass this solemn benediction, after he was consecrated. And by this we are to learn, that the priest’s solemn prayer for a blessing on the people received its efficacy from the sacrifice, which they offered. I have elsewhere^t spoken more on this subject, when I was treating of the ends of Sacrifice. I shall therefore have done with this head, when I have observed, that there is one text of Scripture, which seems expressly to prefer solemn praises offered with voice and heart before material sacrifices; I

Psalm lxix. mean those words of David, “I will praise the Name of God 31, 32. with a song, and magnify it with thanksgiving: this also shall please the Lord, better than a bullock that hath horns and hoofs.” But I must crave leave to render the last verse, “This also shall please the Lord by means of a bullock^u,” &c. This agrees with the sense of the Scripture in other places, which perpetually attributes to Sacrifice the power of rendering other devotions more acceptable; and the Hebrew is altogether as capable of this sense, as of that which is commonly given to it.

**Prayer and
praise ab-
surdly pre-** I cannot, therefore, but esteem it one of the most unaccountable errors of this latter age, that prayer and praise

^r Ainsworth hath the following words from Maimonides, “The priests went up to the bank or stage; after that the priests had finished the daily morning-service, and lifted up their hands on high above their heads, and one pronounced the blessing word by word,” &c. [on Numb. vi. 23.]

^s See Numb. vi. 24, to the end of the chapter, and the whole seventh chapter.

^t See Chap. I. Sect. ii.

^u **וְ** has this signification very often,

as all allow. It is true, the LXX render it ὅπερ τὸν μόσχον, κ. τ. λ., and it must be confessed, that the preposition ὅπερ, with an accusative, does for the most part signify ‘above,’ or ‘better than;’ but ὅπερ, with this case, may signify ‘after:’ the Hebrew **וְ** is so translated Hos. vi. 2, and it will very well fit the words in this place, viz., “This song shall please the Lord, [being sung] after the bullock has been offered as a sacrifice.”

without material sacrifices are more excellent and prevailing with God, than with a material sacrifice joined with them. The only pretence for this is, that it is more spiritual, and, by consequence, more agreeable to spiritual beings, such as God and the souls of men; and it was this, which made Porphyry^y, after he had apostatized from Christianity, renounce not only all outward sacrifice but all use of the voice or any part of the body in the service of God. This has already so far transported the Quakers, as to make them abandon the Sacraments; and if hereafter any man of new light shall undertake to refine and improve upon the Quakers' principles^x, it may be justly foretold, that they will either wholly lay aside public worship, or, however, have none but silent meetings. It is certain, a worship is spiritual, when it is rational and intelligible. Material things, as books, and water, and bread, and wine, and bodily actions, as speaking, singing, bowing, kneeling, do not at all destroy the nature of spiritual worship; nay, kissing was thought very consistent with it in the Apostles' days. There is in Scripture mention made of "spiritual sacrifices;" but that nothing but prayer can be meant by that expression, has not yet been proved: nay, prayer does never expressly pass by the name of a sacrifice in the Old or New Testament. Prayer is sometimes said to be "offered," and so is the fire with which the sacrifice or incense was burnt under the old Law; and Nadab and Abihu suffered for "offering strange fire;" but neither the prayer nor fire are honoured with the name of sacrifice. I deny not but it may be, and is, called so by ancient writers in a figurative and improper sense, as likewise a "contrite spirit"

[Θύσομεν τοῖναν καὶ ἡμεῖς· ἀλλὰ θύσομεν, ὡς προσήκει, διαφόρους τὰς θυσίας, ὡς ἐν διαφόροις δυνάμεσι προσάγοντες· Θεῷ μεν τῷ ἐπι πάσιν, ὡς τὸς ἀνὴρ σοφὸς ἔφη, μηδὲν τῶν αἰσθητῶν μήτε θυμάντες μήτε ἐπονομάζοντες οὐδὲν γάρ ἔστιν ξενιλον, δι μὴ τῷ ἀνέλω εὐθύς ἔστιν ἀκάθαρτον. Διὸ οὐδὲ λόγος τούτῳ, δι κατὰ φωνὴν, οἰκεῖος, οὐδὲ δὲ ἔνδον, θταν πάθει ψυχῆς ή μεμαλυσμένος· διὰ δὲ στιγῆς καθαρᾶς καὶ τῶν περὶ αὐτοῦ καθαρῶν ἐννοιῶν θρησκεύομεν αὐτῶν.—Porph., De Abst., lib. ii. p. 78.]

[A late illustrious poet partly fulfilled this prediction, when he wrote the lines,

S E C T.
II.

ferred to
material
sacrifices.

"He knows (the Spirit that in secret sees,
Of Whose omniscient and all-spreading love
Aught to implore were impotence of mind)
That my mute thoughts are sad before His throne," &c.

He afterwards added this note: "I utterly recant the sentiments contained in the lines, &c., it being written in Scripture, 'Ask, and it shall be given you;' and my human reason being moreover convinced of the propriety of offering *petitions* as well as thanksgivings to the Deity."—See Coleridge's Poetical Works.]

C H A P. II. is called a sacrifice by David, though it be no more than a disposition of mind fitting us for devotion and humiliation, and may prevail with God, when no real sacrifice is to be had. The Jews, who lived far distant from the temple, were obliged, for the most part, to content themselves to worship God by prayer and praise, without material sacrifice, in their synagogues; and this was the case of the Jews that were captives or by other accidents dispersed in countries remote from Jerusalem; but sure, no rational man will doubt but that the temple-worship was in itself more to be valued and desired than that of the synagogues; else why was the temple built and rebuilt, and the building of it thought so great a blessing? and whatever is now said of prayer without sacrifice, it is certain it is but mere synagogue-worship.

God never
abolished
Sacrifice.

3. I am to shew, that God never abolished Sacrifice; and that therefore it still remains the most excellent and prevailing method of Divine worship. Now in order to this, I shall consider those texts which may, in the opinion of some, seem to declare all Sacrifice abolished.

Psalm xl.
6; Heb. x.
5, 6 ,&c.

The first text of this sort is that of David, “Sacrifice and offering Thou wouldest not—burnt-offering and sacrifice for sin hast Thou not required.” Many believe that these words are in some sense to be applied to the time of David, as well as to that of the Messias; but it cannot in reason be supposed, that David did hereby intend to say, that sacrifice was a needless thing, or that the Law of Moses did not command men to offer it, or that that Law was out of date. The contrary to all this was certainly true, and David owned it to be so by offering sacrifice to God. He might indeed intend to declare his judgment, that God had no such desires or appetite to sacrifice as could make Him uneasy at the want of it, or that He did not choose it as a thing from which He received any real advantage; so the Hebrew words here used may be understood; and in this sense it was true, not only in David’s time, but in all ages before and after him, that God takes no real delight, receives no pleasure or profit from any thing that we are capable of giving Him; He only accepts of it as of an act of obedience to His laws, and does not desire it for its own sake, as if He were a gainer by it.

This text is to be understood of the Levitical sacrifices.

So the Apostle teaches us, when, having cited these words, SECT.
II.
Heb. x. 5,
6. 8, 9. he applies them to the sacrifices “offered by the Law;” and indeed it is absurd to suppose, that either David or St. Paul should say that God desired no sacrifice at all; for this would render the Sacrifice of Christ Himself perfectly vain and needless. Whereas it is St. Paul’s design in this place to prove, that “David taketh away the first,” that is, the Levitical sacrifices, “that he may establish the second,” that is, the Sacrifice of Christ. And the ancients, particularly Eusebius and Augustine, do expressly teach us, that in the Eucharist Christ did “do the will of God,” or “offer the delightful things^r,” mentioned by David in this text; and, by consequence, this text is so far from declaring all Sacrifice unnecessary, that it mightily confirms and raises the value of our Christian Sacrifice.

The second text, which seems to look this way, is that of Asaph; the words are these; “I will take no bullock out of thy house, nor he-goat out of thy folds; for all the beasts of the forest are Mine, so are the cattle upon a thousand hills: I know all the fowls upon the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field are in My sight. If I be hungry, I will not tell thee; for the whole world is Mine, and all that is therein. Thinkest thou, that I will eat bull’s flesh, and drink the blood of goats?” It is very evident, it was the Psalmist’s intention to expose the folly of those men, who looked on Sacrifice as the giving God a meal’s-meat, or as intended to satisfy His appetite; who esteemed God no other than a greedy oppressive prince, who robbed the flocks and herds of his subjects in order to fill his own insatiable stomach. It is certain, this was the notion of many heathen concerning their gods, and, probably, of some gross carnal Jews. Now God by His Prophet here declares, that He was so far from any such wants of flesh broiled on their altars, that He would “take” or ‘accept of’ no bullock or goat at the hand of any man that had such unworthy notions of Him. No man will, I suppose, say, that the sacrifices of the Law were, by virtue of this or any other declaration in the Old Testament, immediately abolished; it is certain that they were in full force until our Saviour’s Death.

^r See Part I.

CHAP. II. If any man look on these words as a prophecy, that all bloody sacrifices were to cease in the time of the Messias, I readily agree with him: but then it is observable, he mentions only bloody sacrifices, and that Asaph here declares that even Psalm 1. 14. under the Messias men were to offer a "sacrifice of thanksgiving," and this is the plain English of the word 'Eucharist'; and that this does commonly, in the Scripture, signify some material sacrifice, I have formerly proved at large².

Psalm li. 16. The third text is that of David, "Thou desirest no sacrifice, else would I give it Thee; but Thou delightest not in burnt-offerings." Now it is impossible that these words can imply an utter abolition of sacrifice; because we are sure that David himself did offer sacrifice not only before his inditing this

2 Sam. vi. 18. Psalm, I mean, upon his bringing the ark to Zion, but after 2 Sam. xxiv. 25. it, when the angel appeared to him in the threshing-floor of Araunah. And indeed he speaks in this very Psalm of a time yet to come, when men should offer such sacrifices, and when God should accept them, though at present He did not: this is evidently the meaning of those words, "O be favourable and gracious unto Zion, build Thou the walls of Jerusalem; then shalt Thou be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with burnt-offerings and oblations, then shall they offer young bullocks upon Thine altar."

I have already^a shewed, that a "sacrifice of righteousness" signifies a noble or rich sacrifice, such as was proper for king David to offer. These words therefore may signify no more than this, that in case of murder or adultery God neither required nor accepted a sacrifice. And as this is a certain truth, so it was much to David's purpose to observe it: for his design in this Psalm was to ask God's pardon for these crimes committed against Uriah; and if David had said that God desired not an offering for sin, this would have given further advantage to this interpretation; but he mentions only burnt-offerings and sacrifices, that is, peace-offerings.

Now since it is evident, that God for some time did not desire sacrifices, and yet David expected a time to come when He would again shew His approbation of them; and since David tells us when this time would be, namely, when God should be "gracious to Zion, and build the walls of

² See Part I. p. [379.]

^a Chap. I. Sect. v.

Jerusalem ;” from hence I think it may fairly be concluded, SECT. II.
 that David had conceived some hopes, that God would here-
 after shew that He had chosen Zion to be the constant seat of
 His worship, and that then He would give some visible token
 of His acceptance of the sacrifices there offered. He had, for
 some years before, removed the ark thither, and upon that
 occasion offered sacrifice, as was just now observed. If God had
 then declared that He had chosen Zion for the place of His
 worship, by sending down fire from heaven to consume the
 sacrifice, he had no doubt forthwith complied with the will
 of God, and settled Divine service in that place. It had long
 been his wish that “God would come to him,” that is, take Psalm ci. 2.
 Zion for the place of His residence; and at last, “when 1 Chron.
 David saw that God answered him by fire, he sacrificed xxi. 28;
 there,” and presently said, “This is the house of the Lord xxii. 1.
 God, and this is the altar of burnt-offering for Israel.” But
 he composed this Psalm, before God had been thus “gracious
 to Zion,” while he was in suspense where the place of sacri-
 fice was to be: and it seems probable, that he never did sacri-
 fice at all between the time of his bringing the ark to Zion,
 and “the Angel’s smiting the people;” nor had he sacrificed
 then, if Nathan had not expressly charged him to do it in
 the Name of God. Therefore when he says, “Thou desirest
 no sacrifice, though^b I have given it Thee, and Thou delightest
 not in burnt-offerings,” I take his meaning to be this; that
 God had not yet shewed him His acceptance of the sacrifices
 offered in Zion, as he hoped He would hereafter; and when
 it should please the Divine Majesty to do this, and to “build
 the walls of Jerusalem,” and make it a place fit for so noble a
 sacrifice, then he promises God plenty of sacrifices; “Then,”
 says he, “shall men offer young bullocks upon Thine altar.”
 In the mean time, the tabernacle of Moses and altar of burnt-
 offering was at Gibeon, though the ark were in the new taber-
 nacle upon mount Zion; and so David, as well as others, was
 under an uncertainty where to offer sacrifices with just hopes
 of acceptance, and of this he complains in this text.

The fourth place to this purpose is that of Isaiah, “To Isa. i. 11—
 what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me, saith 15.
 the Lord? I am full of the burnt-offerings of rams, and the

^b often signifies ‘though,’ and this I take to be the proper meaning here.

C H A P. fat of fed beasts, and I delight not in the blood of bullocks
II. or of lambs or of he-goats: when ye come to appear before
 Me, who hath required this at your hands, to tread My courts?
 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination
 to Me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies,
 I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting:
 your new moons, and your appointed feasts, My soul hateth;
 and when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide Mine eyes
 from you, yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear:
 your hands are full of blood.” It ought first to be considered,
 of what it is that God says, “who hath required this at your
 hands?” and it is certain, this is here particularly applied to
 ‘appearing before God,’ and ‘treading God’s courts’ or coming
 to the place of religious worship: therefore it cannot so be
 understood as to say, that God did not require the duty here
 mentioned, which was, the performance of public worship;
 but what he says is, that He did not require it at their hands,
 He never intended that such vile wretches, as they were,
 should presume to come into His house: for it is observable,
 that no sacrifice was appointed for the expiation of murder
 by Moses’ Law; and God here speaks to men, whose hands
 were full of blood, who had either actually shed innocent
 blood or were fully disposed to do it.

I need say no more in relation to this text, but that Sacrifice is here set on the same foot with “sabbaths,” “the solemn meetings,” and “prayers;” God declares them all to be “abominations,” and that He “will not hear” their devotions. It is very evident therefore, that God could not declare against the things themselves, for they were all expressly enjoined by His Law: He could no more say of Sacrifice than of “sabbaths” or “prayers,” “who hath required them?” But He might very well say, “who hath required them *at your hands?*” For God never designed that His ordinances should be used by impenitent sinners. If Sacrifice be here abolished, prayer is abolished with it.

The fifth text is from the same Prophet, and to the same
 Isa. lxvi. 3. purpose, “He that killeth an ox is as if he slew a man; he
 that sacrificeth a lamb, as if he cut off a dog’s neck;” and the
 reason of this is given in the next words, “They have chosen
 their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abomina-

tions." Their vices polluted all their services and devotions. SECT.
II.

The sixth is that in Jeremiah, "Your burnt-offerings are Jer. vi. 19,
20. not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet unto Me :" and the reason of this is given in the foregoing words, "because they have not hearkened to My Word, but rejected it."

The seventh text is that of the same Prophet, where God is represented as saying, according to our Translation, "I Jer. vii. 22,
23. spake not to your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt concerning burnt-offerings and sacrifices ; but this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be My people." Now this text does not tend to the abolishing of Sacrifice, nor does it deny Sacrifice to be of God's own institution. It only seems to say, as we have rendered the words, that God did not command the Israelites to sacrifice at the time of His bringing them out of Egypt. But this cannot be their true meaning, because it is certain, that God did speak to them of Sacrifice, that is, of the Passover, and the sacrificing of the first-born, at the very time that He brought them out of Egypt : and He speaks to them of burnt-offerings in the very same chapter, in which He gives us the Ten Commandments ; therefore we must turn the words thus, "I spake not to your fathers, &c. concerning the manner^c of burnt-offerings and sacrifice," meaning by "the manner" the numerous rites and ceremonies which are enjoined in the three last Books of Moses, which were not indeed spoken of, when God brought them out of Egypt. Irenæus^d understands the words, as if God had said, "I spake not to your fathers, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt for the sake of sacrifices ;" or, as if the main intent I had in delivering them from their bondage were, that I might have greater plenty of beasts offered to Me. And, it is certain, the Hebrew words will bear this construction, and so will the Greek Translation. The words are by the generality of interpreters understood to mean no more than this, that God did not at His bringing them out of Egypt insist so much on Sacri-

^c עַל־דְּבָרֶת for עַל־דְּבָרִים

^d Advers. hær., lib. iv. c. 32, but when the Translator of Irenæus ought not to have turned περὶ δλοκαντωμάτων

'de holocaustis,' but 'holocaustorum gratia,' or the like: and it is certain, περὶ has this signification.

C H A P. fice, as He did on obedience to His commands ; and the words,
II. so taken, do not in the least hint to us any design of God to
 abolish Sacrifice.

Hosea vi. 6. The eighth text is that of Hosea, “ I will have mercy, and
 not sacrifice ; and the knowledge of the Lord, rather than
 burnt-offerings.” And no more can be meant by this, than
 that God chooses mercy and the practical knowledge of Him-
 self, rather than Sacrifice. In this all interpreters agree ;
 and this does by no means abolish Sacrifice, but only makes
 it less valuable than universal obedience to the Moral Law.

Amos v. 21. The ninth is that of Amos, by whom God says, “ I hate,
 I despise your feasts, I will not smell in your solemn assem-
 blies ; though ye offer Me burnt-offerings and meat-offer-
 ings, I will not accept of them.” This is no more than what
 God said before by Isaiah, that He abhorred, not the sacri-
 fices themselves, but their profane way of offering them ; for
 their crimes are particularly mentioned in this very chapter.
 They are said to “ turn judgment to wormwood, and to have
 left off righteousness, to have trodden upon the poor ; their
 transgressions were manifold, and their sins mighty.” For
 it is the greatest abuse of Sacrifice to suppose, that it was in-
 tended to protect men in their villainies.

Micah vi. The last passage in Scripture to this purpose is that of
6—8. Micah ; “ Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow
 myself before the High God ? Shall I come before Him with
 burnt-offerings, and with calves of a year old ; will the Lord
 be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of
 rivers of oil ? Shall I give my first-born for my transgression,
 the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul ? He hath shewed
 thee, O man, what is good, and what doth the Lord thy God
 require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to
 walk humbly with thy God ? ” The Prophet here compares
 Sacrifice with justice, mercy, and humility, and gives the pre-
 ference to the latter, in which I suppose all agree ; but it is
 probable, that he means heathen sacrifice. Grotius supposes
 that, by ‘ giving the first-born for one’s transgression,’ he re-

2 Kings iii. reflects on the story of the king of Moab, related in the second
 27. Book of Kings. When Micah asks, “ What doth the Lord
 require, but justice,” &c., he cannot in reason be supposed to
 exclude all other duties, excepting those here mentioned. God

certainly requires us to love Him above all things, and He further demands of all in this age, that they should believe in Christ ; and yet neither of these duties are so much as hinted by the Prophet ; therefore by the three moral virtues here mentioned, Micah meant all other graces and moral duties, and he plainly enough declares that they are more acceptable to God than sacrifice.

It appears from these texts, that obedience to God's Moral Law was better than any of the sacrifices that could be offered, before Christ came, in itself considered ; and this is the only conclusion that can be drawn from these texts to the lessening of the excellence of Sacrifice. It is true, there is another consequence to be drawn from them, namely, that no sacrifice, how valuable soever, shall be accepted from wicked hands, so as to render it beneficial to him that offers it ; but this does not at all lessen the value of Sacrifice, but only shews the odiousness of sin, which turns the greatest blessings into the greatest curses. I shall therefore at present only consider the true meaning of this maxim, that "obedience is better than Sacrifice," or, as it is expressed in the Gospel, that the "love of God and our neighbour is better than all burnt-offerings and sacrifices." Some seem willing from hence to conclude, that he who loves God and his neighbour is not bound to sacrifice at all ; but this is very rash and absurd ; for it ever was and ever will be the duty of men to sacrifice, as well as to love God and man : we must do the one, and not leave the other undone. To love God and man is a more weighty and momentous duty than prayer ; it does not therefore follow, that prayer is needless or unnecessary. The prayer and sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination in the sight of God. If the prayer and sacrifice of the righteous added nothing to Him, then it must follow, that prayer and sacrifice were to no purpose : the good would have no occasion for it, and the bad by offering it would make their case still worse. Though therefore obedience be better than Sacrifice, yet not in such a sense, as that he, who does in other respects obey God's laws, is free from the law of Sacrifice. Therefore the meaning of this maxim is,

1. That a virtuous life is much better than the mere out-

CHAP. II. ward work of sacrifice ; for sacrifice offered by wicked men, whose hearts are void of any inward good dispositions, is merely an outward performance ; and it is of such sacrifices, that all those texts of Scripture, which I have now produced to this purpose, are to be understood.

2. That in case we cannot perform both, we are to choose to obey a moral law rather than the law of Sacrifice. So our Saviour chose to converse with heathen men and sinners, in order to do a real charity to their souls, rather than to obey a law^e relating to Sacrifice, which was to avoid the touch of an unclean person, and, by consequence, not to eat or drink with him ; and hereupon Christ justified Himself for eating and drinking with such men, by that saying, “I will have mercy and not (or rather than) sacrifice ;” for he who eat and drank with such men was thought unclean, and therefore not fit to offer sacrifice.

Obedience
better than
Prayer.

But neither of these considerations does at all lessen or disparage the excellence of worshipping God by sacrifice. For the same things may as truly be said of what men now commonly call ‘spiritual worship ;’ for, certainly, of the two, it is much better to obey in all other respects, and to omit prayer and praise, than to be frequent and constant in prayer and praise, and to omit all or many other duties ; especially, if our prayers and praises are merely formal and external, as the devotions of all men, who are negligent in other duties, commonly are. And no man can doubt but that prayer and praise are to be omitted both in public and private, when they interfere with any act of charity, which cannot so well be performed at another time ; so that they, who by this maxim, that “Obedience is better than Sacrifice,” would prove Sacrifice unnecessary, must by consequence prove all prayer and praise to be so too.

Better not
to sacrifice,
than to
offer what
is forbidden,
or without
commission.

1 Sam. xv.
22; xiii. 12,
13.

When Samuel told Saul, that “to obey is better than sacrifice,” his meaning must have been, that it had been better for him to have obeyed God’s will, than to have sacrificed as he did, directly contrary to God’s Law. If he had sacrificed according to God’s directions, as pious Israelites did, he had obeyed and sacrificed both in one ; and it is

^e Numb. xix. 22, “Whatsoever the unclean person toucheth, shall be unclean,” &c.

further to be observed, that he does not mean obeying the Moral Law, but complying with an express positive law or revelation. Saul's fault was, the saving the Amalekites, which God by Samuel had commanded to be destroyed, and his invading the priest's office. These were neither of them moral laws. By sacrificing he broke one law, because he was not called of God to the priestly office, as was Aaron; by saving that which was devoted to destruction, under pretence of intending to offer it in sacrifice, he brake another law. From this we may learn two things; first, that it is much more pious and commendable to forbear sacrifice, than for a man, under pretence of some urgent motive or necessary occasion, to offer a sacrifice without a call or commission from God. It is certain, that Saul was rejected from the kingdom of Israel for this presumption. The other is, that we should take heed that we do not offer such materials in sacrifice, as God has forbidden; for such were the cattle of the Amalekites.

This naturally brings me to consider, whether all bloody sacrifices, and all other sacrifices, except that of the Eucharist, be now utterly abolished. I have sufficiently proved, that God did never declare any intention of abrogating all Sacrifice: but now it remains for me to shew, how all Sacrifice is abolished, except that of the Eucharist; and I suppose it will be granted me, that whatever was typical was done away in Christ, because He was the completion of those types. It has ever been the judgment of all sound Divines both ancient and modern, so far as I am able to inform myself, that every bloody sacrifice, offered before and under the Law, was a figure of Christ to come; that they were shadows, and Christ the Body; and they now, being all verified and accomplished, do cease for the future. And that the unbloody sacrifices of the Law were also types of the Eucharist, was the judgment of the ancients; who, therefore, believed, that the Prophet Malachi, by the "pure meal-offering to be offered in every place," did foretel the Sacrifice of Christ's Sacramental Body and Blood; and, since the Christian meal-offering has taken place, the Jewish meal-offering is to be no more. By this means only, the Jewish seventh-day Sabbath was annulled; it was "a shadow of what

All sacrifices but
the Eucharist abolished.

Col. ii. 17.

CHAP. was to come ;" and, by the same reason that the Sabbath
 II. gave place to the Lord's day, the bloody and unbloody sacrifices of the Law gave place to the Sacrifice of Christ.

Or made
needless.

Though, in truth, there is no necessity that we should prove bloody sacrifices to be abolished by any express declaration of Almighty God in the New Testament, it is sufficient that they are perfectly needless and superfluous. And I shewed that they are so, when I proved^f, that the Eucharist does effectually and abundantly answer all the ends of the ancient sacrifices. For what man of common discretion will put himself to an unnecessary charge, or be at the expence of an animal, when the frugal and pure Sacrifice of the Christian Church is of infinitely more value than all the cattle upon a thousand hills ? What man in his right senses will make it his choice to offer a bullock or ram, when he is convinced, that there is a Sacrifice far more precious and prevailing with God ? Therefore, though by the express words of St.

Heb. x. 9. Paul the Levitical sacrifices are "taken away," yet there is no general declaration of God's abolishing all bloody Sacrifice, either in the Old or the New Testament. Under the Old Testament, bloody sacrifices were always required ; under the New, there was no need to declare them abrogated ; they must fall, of course, without any such declaration ; and the Great Sacrifice of Christ, offered in person, did at once render the Eucharist a perpetual unchangeable Sacrifice, and made all other sacrifices altogether needless.

A recapitu-
lation of
this section.

Thus I have made good what I undertook, viz., that Sacrifice was originally founded upon a Divine authority ; that it was intended to be the most excellent way of worship, as being not only prayer and praise but an enforcement of them ; that God never declared any design of wholly abolishing Sacrifice ; and though the Levitical sacrifices were indeed abrogated by the Death of Christ, yet Sacrifice in general never was ; that the Death of Christ, which extinguished the sacrifices of Moses, gave life and birth and perpetuity to the Sacrifice of the Eucharist. And though no other sacrifices but those of the Levitical Law are expressly declared to be abolished, yet all other sacrifices vanished, as types that were accomplished by the Sacrifice and Death of Christ ; or, how-

^f See Chap. I. Sect. ii.

ever, are become wholly unnecessary by reason of the more sufficient and perfect Sacrifice of the Eucharist ; which does better serve all the ends of Sacrifice than any or all the other, which were used either by the Jews or Patriarchs.

It does indeed appear, that the love of God and man is more excellent than the bare external action of offering sacrifice, let it be never so perfect in its kind ; but then he, who does both love God and man and offers sacrifice under this blessed disposition of mind, does much better, than he, who fulfils these two great laws of the Gospel without fulfilling the law of sacrifice ; “ for he who offends in this one point is guilty of [not having kept] the whole Law.” It is certain, that the best obedience which we can perform is imperfect, and therefore not acceptable, without the merits of Christ ; and I have shewed that one main design of the Eucharist is, to plead the merits of Christ in the most effectual and prevailing manner before our Heavenly Father : and

I therefore humbly recommend it to the consideration of my judicious reader, whether the Eucharist can be esteemed the principal worship of God’s Church, if it be not a real Sacrifice and practised as such. If worshipping God by offering to Him no material thing but barely thoughts and words, be the most spiritual and the most excellent service, I desire it may be considered, whether the worship used by the Jews in their synagogues be not as spiritual as that which is used by those Christians, who declare against all material Sacrifice, and if it be as spiritual, then why is it not to be preferred before the old temple-worship ?

It may be said, that prayers offered by the Church in the Name of Christ are as available as if the Eucharist were offered together with those prayers ; but I desire my reader would consider, whether what I have said under the second head of the foregoing section, be not sufficient to shew, that to pray in the Name of Christ is to offer our petitions to God in and by the Eucharist. I believe it very proper and commendable, that all prayers, both public and private, should end as they usually do, with those words, “ through Jesus Christ our Lord ;” but I wish that people do not lead themselves into an error, by taking from thence an occasion to think that our Saviour meant nothing else by what He calls

SECT.
II.

Sacrifice
necessary
as well as
obedience.

Praying in
Christ’s
Name with-
out the Eu-
charist, not
so available
as with it.

CHAP. II. "praying in His Name," but only using these or such like words at the conclusion of our devotions.

III. I proceed to the third question, viz., whether the Eucharist can be the most proper method of Christians' communicating and covenanting with God, if it be not used as a Sacrifice? I am far from even supposing, that Sacrifice is the only rite or method of covenanting with God. Nobody can question but that Baptism at present, and Circumcision of old, was a rite of entering into covenant with God. But the question is, whether they who are already in covenant with God, as all baptized Christians certainly are, can properly continue or renew that covenant without actual Sacrifice; and the following reasons incline me to think it probable, that, after we have first struck covenant with God, our Covenant and Communion with Him is to be maintained by Sacrifice.

God ever
communi-
cated with
His Church
by Sacrifice.

1. Because God has always, since the first institution of Circumcision, prescribed this method of covenanting and communicating with them that were already His people. Before Circumcision was instituted, it does not appear that there was any other method of God's communicating with men, but Sacrifice only. Since the time of Abraham, Sacrifice is the only method of renewing the covenant with them that had before entered into it. This, then, is evident, that Sacrifice has always by God's appointment been a method of covenanting and communicating with Him, and the only method, by which they who were already His people could renew it; and there is not any probability of His having made any alteration in this point, since it does not appear that He ever intended to abolish Sacrifice, as hath appeared upon a particular examination of all those texts, which are supposed by some to look this way. And if Sacrifice be still in force, then certainly it is to be performed with the same view, and to the same ends, for which it was first established. And one end, and that the principal, always was, for the renewing of covenant and communion with God, and to recover it, when it was lost or endangered by wilful sin. And, certainly, if the Church of God did ever preserve its communion with God principally by Sacrifice, it will very well deserve our serious thoughts, whether it can now be preserved by any other

means, except it can be proved that God hath made new laws or provisions as to this particular. SECT.
II.

2. Another just reason I have to question, whether Covenant and Communion can be continued with God by the Eucharist, when it is not used as a Sacrifice, is this, viz., that as it is on all hands allowed, that this Sacrament is the principal means by which the Church communicates with God, so it seems to me altogether as plain, that this Sacrament was instituted by Christ to be the constant standing Sacrifice of His Church. Now, if the Eucharist be by its institution a Sacrifice, it seems from thence unavoidably to follow, that it was designed for the same end with all other sacrifices; and that Christ made it a Sacrifice for this very purpose, that by it this Covenant and Communion might be made perpetual: and that, therefore, if it be not practised as a Sacrifice, not only the institution of Christ is in this respect neglected, but the end of the institution, which is preserving covenant and communion with God, is not so effectually attained.

3. There is greater reason still for this question, because it seems highly probable, that sacrifice is, in strictness, the only proper or most excellent manner of maintaining communion betwixt God and His Church. The most clear and perfect notion of Communion that I can conceive, is this, that it is ‘a mutual giving and receiving;’ and mutual giving and receiving implies perfect friendship, consent, and good inclinations towards each other, which is the truest agreement, alliance, or confederacy. Now Sacrifice is, I think, the only religious solemnity, in which mutual solemn pledges pass between God and His Church. Irenæus^g teaches us, that this was the end of the ancient sacrifices, in those excellent words; “God wants nothing, but man wants communion with God; and He grants the communion of Himself to them who want it.” He shews further, that God did this by “sacrifices and oblations.” And, certainly, of all sacrifices that were ever offered, the Eucharist is best contrived by the Divine Wisdom for continuing a constant covenant and communion betwixt God and His Church. For in it the Church presents to God the very best she has to give, that is, the Bread and Wine, made the Sacramental Body and Blood of

The Eucharist intended as a means of communicating with God, and therefore made a Sacrifice.

Sacrifice, in itself, the most proper means of communion with God.

C H A P. Christ by His own appointment, and receives them back
II. again enriched with the special blessing of the Holy Spirit, as an earnest of all Divine graces that we can enjoy in this life or hope for in the next. This seems clearly to have been St. Paul's notion; for he says^h, that the Israelites in their sacrifices did "communicate with the altar," that is, with the true God, Whose altar it was; and he supposes that the Gentiles in their sacrifices "communicated with devils," to whom their sacrifices were offered, and from whom they received some share back again. He mentions "the Communion of the Body and Blood of Christ," as exactly answering these sacrifices; and by "the Communion of the Body and Blood," we cannot, I humbly conceive, more properly understand any thing, than the mutual giving and receiving It; our presenting It to God, and having It restored to us again for the strengthening and refreshing our souls. Sacrifice, therefore, being the fixed, settled method of communion between God and His Church, and the Eucharist being the only proper Sacrifice we have to offer, I leave it to the judgment of all serious and impartial inquirers, whether they who do not use the Eucharist as a Sacrifice do not thereby neglect the only or most proper means of covenanting or communicating with God; for no one can doubt but this Communion is most perfect, when something is given or offered to Him, as well as received from Him: and if, therefore, the Jews in their service did offer something to God, and Christians do not, whether it will not be hard to prove that their services, in this respect, were not more excellent than ours.

This applied to inward communion.

What I have hitherto offered on this head, may be supposed to concern only the external communion betwixt God and His Church on earth. Therefore it well deserves our consideration, whether inward communion with God can be preserved without the use of this outward means. In the last part of the former section I shewedⁱ, that all promises are made to Christians, as they are a Church, that is, a body of men combined together for the service of God and Christ

^h 1 Cor. x. 18. 20, *κοινωνοῦσ* *εἶναι* and *κοινωνέῖν* are indifferently rendered by our Translators 'to have fellowship with' or 'to partake with;' but the

most exact version is 'to have communion with.'

ⁱ See Part I. p. [384.]

Jesus; and every branch and twig of a tree must be sapless and barren, if it have no communication with the body; and our communion with the Body does chiefly depend upon our joining in this most proper and principal worship; and the Eucharist seems to be this most proper and principal worship by Its being a Sacrifice. It is true, this communion between God and the souls of good men is continual; nothing interrupts it, but presumptuous sin. But then I conceive, it is chiefly supported and rendered perpetual by the fresh streams of Divine grace flowing upon the soul in this Divine ordinance, and by the constant disposition of the mind toward this Spiritual Food, when It may be had; (for no man shall suffer for the want of It, but for his own wilful neglect.) It is true, Prayer has the promise of all blessing annexed to it; but then, I conceive, it must be a prayer offered in Christ's Name; and no man ought to be so secure that he prays in Christ's Name, but he who offers his devotions in the Eucharist. It is certain, that prosperity and success in worldly affairs, and even some spiritual mercies, as opportunities of good instruction, religious knowledge, good tendencies and dispositions, the escaping great trials and temptations, are often the effect of private prayers, and are probably granted to many without asking at all; however, to great numbers that keep at a distance from the Lord's Table. But, I conceive, the chief benefit of our communion with God consists in the pardon of our sins, in the more plentiful supplies of Divine grace and inward strength against our spiritual enemies, and in the assurance of Eternal Life; and these benefits, though they are always to be asked in prayer, yet are not, I humbly conceive, conveyed or actually sealed to us in this life anywhere but in the Eucharist. These are the covenant-blessings of the Gospel; and though we must always pray for them, yet there is no certainty of receiving them, unless we lay hold on that Covenant, in the way which Christ Jesus has directed. And I submit it to the judgment of my readers, whether, in order to make more sure of these blessings, we ought not to make it our chief care to have it administered and received, according to the pattern given us by Christ, that is, as the standing covenanting solemnity of His Church, and therefore as a Sacrifice?

I am sensible, that some make the communion betwixt

C H A P. God and the soul to consist in Divine in-comes, in having the soul carried out toward God by an irresistible overcoming sweetness. If by these and such-like phrases they mean any thing that is intelligible and can be expressed in plain words ; it is, I suppose, that fervent zeal, which good men exercise in their prayer, and that secret pleasure, which they perceive in the performance of that duty. And that this, when it is real, is an effect of God's grace, I doubt not : but no man ought too much to rely on these inward soothing motions of his own mind, or to draw from thence any certain conclusions of God's special good-will toward him ; for there is just reason to believe, that they very often proceed from a warm fancy ; and, at the best, they are not to be compared to that sure Word of Promise, which has made the Sacrament a Covenant in Christ's Blood, and therefore the most certain method of inward as well as outward Communion with God.

Communion between Christians, exercised in the Eucharist. But it has been before observed, that the Eucharist is not only a communion between God and His Church, but between the several members of His Church with each other. I need spend no words to prove, that Jesus Christ intended that His Church, the whole multitude of His Priests and people, should be united in the bond of peace and love, and knit together in a continual league and friendship. It is certain that people did of old confirm their covenants with one another by sacrifice. Thus did Laban and Jacob : and though the Israelites could not in this most solemn manner enter into covenant with other nations, because no people but themselves worshipped the True God and Him only ; yet it is evident, that their unity among themselves in worshipping the same God, at one place, and in one and the same manner, was intended to be the foundation of a perpetual peace and alliance with each other. And

Gen. xxxi. 45—54.

Josh. xxii. 19. 27.

it was for this reason, that Phinehas the priest and the heads of the ten tribes charge the Reubenites and Gadites for "rebelling," or rather 'turning apostates,' not only "against God," but against their brethren of the other ten tribes, because they had built a new altar ; for Phinehas and the rest of the Israelites apprehended, that they designed on this altar to offer sacrifice to some strange god, or, however, not to join with them in offering their sacrifice according to

the Law of Moses ; and this they rightly judged to be an apostasy, rebellion, or violation of the covenant of perpetual peace, which was grounded on their sacrificing at the same altar and to the same God. The Reubenites and Gadites purge themselves from this *crime*^j by declaring, that the new altar was not built for sacrifice, but to be a witness between themselves and the other tribes ; lest it might in future ages be said to them, “ Ye have no part in the Lord :” for, by being excluded from the public worship, they were sensible that they should be looked upon as a people lopt off from the main body of that nation, because the bond of peace, which was their sacrificing at the same altar, would thereby be broken. That the heathen confirmed their leagues by joining together in the solemn offering of sacrifices, is commonly observed by writers on this subject ; and I have given two remarkable instances of it in the margin^k. Now since it is evident that our Saviour intended, that His disciples should regard one another as members of the same Body, that they should be of one heart and one mind, that there should be no divisions among them, and that universal love and mutual affection should be the mark whereby good Christians should be distinguished from the rest of the world ; and since He laid so very great a stress upon this single duty ; therefore it was necessary, that He should bind it on our consciences in the most strong and effectual manner. And it cannot be conceived, how God could lay a higher obligation upon us to preserve continual love and peace together, than by requiring us all to join in offering the same Sacrifice, and thereby to

^j [i. e. *crimen*; *crime* is here, evidently, a Latinism for ‘ criminous charge.’]

^k Menelaus in Homer says,

Οὐστε δὲ ἄρν, ἔτερον λευκόν, ἔτέρην
δὲ μέλαιναν,
Γῆ τε καὶ Ἡελίω· Διὸς δὲ ἡμεῖς οἴστο-
μεν ἀλλον.

*Ἀξετε δὲ Πριάμοιο βίην, ὅφελος δρκια
τάμνη

Αὐτὸς.—Iliad. G. ver. 103, &c.

Κήρυκες δὲ ἀγὰ ἀστυ θεῶν φέρον δρκια
πιστά,

*Ἄρνε δύω καὶ οἰνον ἐνθρόνα.—ibid.,
245.

*Η, καὶ ἀπὸ στομάχους ἄρνων τάμε
υηλέι χαλκῷ.

Οἶνον δὲ ἐκ κρητῆρος ἀφυσσάμενοι
δεπάεσσιν

Ἐκκεον, ἡδὲ εὔχοντο θεοῖς αἰειγενέ-
τρησιν.—[ibid., 292.]

Turnus, in Virgil, says,

Fer sacra, Pater, et concipe fœdus.

— puraque in veste sacerdos.—

AEn. xii. ver. 13.

Setigeras fœtum suis, intonsamque
bidentem

Attulit, admovitque pecus flagrantibus
aris.—ibid., 169, &c.

Talibus inter se firmabant fœdera
dictis

Conspectu in medio procerum; tum
rite sacratas

In flamman jugulant pecudes, et
viscera vivis

Eripunt, cumulantque oneratis lan-
cibus aras.—ibid., 212.

CHAP. profess to God and the world our resolution of following whatever makes for peace, and for keeping the Christian Covenant and Communion entire and unbroken. And by this means it comes to pass, that we cannot transgress the laws of justice and charity toward men, but we must at the same time break covenant and communion with God. And it is certainly necessary, that men should be under the most powerful restraints from malice and ill-will, and under the strongest ties to mutual friendship and affection; especially, when not only the peace of the world but the eternal salvation of their souls does so much depend upon this article of religion.

Christ by
the Eucha-
rist design-
ed a most
perfect
union
among
Christians.

St. Paul informs us, that all good Christians are “One Bread” or loaf; and gives this reason for it, that “we are all partakers of that One Bread” in the Eucharist. For all the several masses of Bread, offered in the several congregations of Christians dispersed throughout the world, are all in the Mystery but One Body of Christ, and all the single Christians and congregations but One Church, represented on this account by the Apostle as “One Loaf;” and, therefore, in assisting at this Sacrifice and offering this One Loaf to God, we offer not only the Sacramental Body of Christ, but His mystical Body the Church; and are thereby understood to profess, that we look on all good Christians as united to Christ and each other, as the several grains of wheat are kneaded into one loaf; and that therefore we desire the same blessings and favours for all other members of Christ’s Church, as we do for ourselves. “The Church offers itself through Christ in the Eucharist,” says St. Augustine¹. “If any one offer Wine only, then the Blood of Christ is without us; but if the Water be alone, the people is without Christ^m.” And thus our Saviour has not only commanded the Christian to love his neighbour as himself, but has rivetted the practice of this duty into the most solemn office of His religion. And he who does not wish and pray for the same spiritual blessings for all other Christians, that he does for himself, cannot perform his part in the Christian Sacrifice. And upon the whole it must be owned, that the Divine Wisdom of the Son of God has most illustriously displayed itself in the con-

¹ A. p. 34. Ap.

^m m. 8. p. 13. Ap.

trivance and institution of this most excellent Sacrifice, and especially in rendering the use of it necessary for our communion with God, and by making our communion with each other in this most solemn manner a very important article of that Covenant, which is renewed in the Sacrifice of the Eucharist.

IV. There is a fourth question still remaining on this head; and that is, whether the Eucharist can truly be consecrated, when it is not offered to God? It is certain all sacrifices were ever consecrated by being presented at the altar, and being offered on it in whole or in part; and on this account the flesh of the beasts that were sacrificed was called "holy" or "most holy;" by this means they deserved the title of being called "the Bread" or food "of the Lord."ⁿ I have formerly shewed, that the primitive Church did offer the symbols of Christ's Body and Blood to God, in order to their being made the Body and Blood of Christ, not only in figure, as they were before, but in life and power. And since Christ declares the Bread to be "His Body given" for us; therefore we cannot in reason doubt but that He had given or offered it to God, though His manner of doing it, or the words He used on this occasion, are not recorded in the Gospels. For the first fifteen hundred^o years after Christ

Whether
Oblation be
necessary
to the con-
secration of
the Eucha-
rist.

ⁿ See Part I. p. [331—334.]

^o Mons. Pfaffy observes, that "there are several Offices in the Gothic Missal, in which there is no mention of a Sacrifice or Oblation." p. 332. And there is thus much of truth in what he says, that fifty-seven Offices out of eighty-one have not a proper form of Oblation in the usual place, viz., between the Words of Institution and the Prayer of Invocation: there are but ten Offices that have a just form of Oblation, viz., the 8, 11, 12, 20, 27, 36, 65, 77, 79, 80; there are nine more that have something that looks like an Oblation, but not express and clear, viz., the 3, 4, 5, 17, 21, 28, 75, 76, 78. This seems a great objection against what I have here and elsewhere advanced, but is in reality nothing at all to the purpose.
For

1. Wherever the proper Oblation is wanting, there what Mons. Pfaffy calls the Prayer of Consecration, on which he lays so great a stress, is wanting also.

2. Wherever the words of oblation are wanting, there the whole Canon Missæ, or, however, the Words of Institution, are not to be found; excepting the sixth and thirty-seventh Offices, and the ninth Offices, where I noted the Oblation to be very doubtful and imperfect. There are no less than fifty-seven Offices in which all the three parts of Consecration, viz., the Words of Institution, the Oblation, the Prayer for the Holy Spirit or Divine Benediction, are not to be found; these fifty-seven are all that have not been particularly by me numbered in this note, excepting the two first, and the last, which are almost or altogether wanting. Upon the whole, it is evident that these Offices, as published by Father Mabillon, are very defective, and that too in the most essential parts.

3. Where the Words of Institution are inserted, yet they are not set down at large, but thus, *Qui pridie quam pateretur*, &c. From this we have a demonstration, that the defects of par-

CHAP. there is, I conceive, not one single instance of a Church,
II. — that thought the Elements consecrated without offering them

ticular Offices were to be supplied; and
that either

(1.) By some general directions at
the beginning or ending of the book;
and the original MS. in the Queen of
Sweden's library might at first con-
tain such directions, though they are
now worn away; for Mabillon lets us
know that several leaves are wanting
at the beginning and the end, and in-
deed the two first Offices and the first
part of the third, and the last (except-
ing the title, and twenty or thirty
words) are now lost. The general di-
rections might be either in the first or
last of these Offices; and one would
rather think they were in the last, be-
cause the title of it still remains, and
is, *Missa cotidiana Romensis*; which
seems to import, that it contained the
common orders of the Communion
Service, where provision had not been
made by the several foregoing Offices.

(2.) Or else, the defect of the par-
ticular Offices was supplied by the
memory of the Priest; and it is rea-
sonable to believe, that the Priests in
that age could as readily supply the
defect of the Oblation and Prayer for
the benediction of the Spirit, as they
could that of the Words of Institution;
and since they all follow one after the
other, therefore the same *item*, or ‘&c.’
might serve to remind the Priest of all
three. The book called *Micrologus*,
published in the eleventh century, does
much countenance this notion. It
contains an account of Divine Offices
in the Church of France, where this
Gothic Missal too was used in the
ninth and tenth centuries. The twenty-
third chapter of this book contains
Brevi descriptio celebranda Missæ;
and after the Words of Institution, it
directs the Priest immediately to say,
*Unde et memores nos, Domine, servi
Tui—Christi Filii Tui Domini Dei no-
stri, tam beatae Passionis, necon et ab
inferis Resurrectionis, sed et in cœlum
gloriosæ Ascensionis, offerimus præ-
claras Majestati Tuæ de Tuis donis ac
datis—Hostiam puram, Hostiam sanc-
tam, &c.* And in the eleventh chapter
you have also these words, *Compositâ
Oblatione in Altari, dicit Sacerdos hanc
Orationem, [juxta Gallicanum Ordinem;]
Veni, Sanctificator Omnipotens,
æterne Deus, benedic hoc Sacrificium,
&c. Deinde ante Altare inclinatus di-
cat hanc Orationem, non ex aliquo Or-*

dine, sed ex ecclesiastica consuetudine;
Suscipe, Sancta Trinitas, hanc Obla-
tionem, quam Tibi offerimus in me-
moriam Passionis, &c. By this it ap-
pears, that there were certain Forms of
Oblation used “by the custom of the
Church, not read out of any Service-
Book.” Father Mabillon inclines to
think that the Priest trusted his me-
mory as to these Forms, which were
then, says he, “commonly known;”
and he cites, upon this occasion, the
first clause out of the twenty-third
chapter of *Micrologus*, as above. See
his Preface to his three books, *De Li-
turgiâ Gallicanâ*, sect. 13.

(3.) Whatever the reason was for
omitting the Forms of Oblation in their
proper place, it is certain it was not
done upon an opinion that the Oblation
was not necessary; for the compilers
of these Offices do several times express
their sentiment, that Jesus Christ in-
stituted the Sacrifice; Father Mabillon
mentions some of these places in the
tenth page of his Preface. I will give
my reader but one taken out of the
twenty-eighth Office [i.e. of the Gothic
Missal, p. 237.] in which, if there
be an Oblation, it is directed to God
the Son, contrary to all the sentiments
of the primitive Church; but in a
previous exhortation you have these
words; *Sacrosanctam, fratres dilectissimi,
hodiernâ die inchoanda Pascha
sollennitatem, ac salutiferam Dominicæ
immolationis effigiem in Sacrificio spi-
rituali transfusam—celebrantes—Christus
deprecemur; Qui hæc in sacri
Corporis et Sanguinis Sui Oblatione
benedicere et sanctificare dignatus est;
ita offerentium famulorum Suorum
Munera Oblata benedicat; ut per in-
illustrationem Spiritus Sancti, deferentibus
nuntiis, odor suavitatis ascendat.
Per Dominum, &c.* It is in the Office
for Maundy Thursday.—[*Missa in
Coena Domini.*]

I say nothing of Mons. Pfaffy's ob-
jection against the Oblation “as made
before the Consecration” in these and
all other ancient Liturgies; he speaks
according to the sentiments of the Lu-
therans, who attribute the Consecration
chiefly to the Prayer for the Divine
Benediction, though sometimes they
allow that the Words of Institution do
also contribute to it. The truth is, the
ancient Church believed the Consecration
to be performed by all three, viz.,

to God. In the Liturgies of the middle ages, there are forms of Oblation scattered through the whole Office; and the symbols are commonly offered two or three times at least; but all of them agree in making the solemn Oblation of the Bread and Wine, after repeating the Words of Institution, whereby the elements were, in the words of Christ, appointed to be His Body and Blood, and before the Invocation of the Holy Spirit. But the most ancient Liturgy now extant contains no other Oblation but this last mentioned; therefore I humbly recommend it to the serious consideration of all judicious Clergymen and laymen, whether this Form does not deserve to be received by all Churches, until one more ancient can be discovered. Though I am in my own mind persuaded, that if we had the very words in which St. Peter and St. Paul consecrated the Eucharist, it would not differ in substance from that which I am now mentioning. The reader has it in the Appendix to this Vol. II. No. I. In the mean time let every pious well-instructed Christian pray with good king Hezekiah^p, "The good Lord grant atonement for every heart that directs itself to seek the Lord God of their fathers, though not according to the purity of" the Sacrament or Holy Institution.

Grotius^q has a singular fancy, that our Saviour, being obliged to keep the Passover the day before that on which it fell, because that was the day assigned for His crucifixion, could not have the lamb offered as a sacrifice in the temple by a priest; and therefore kept the Passover only as a feast. This is improbable in the highest degree, especially because our Saviour had declared, that He would fulfil the Law to the least jot and tittle. But if He did not solemnize the Passover by offering the lamb as a sacrifice, it is evident He

the Words of Institution, the Oblation, and Invocation. But I must further take leave to observe, that all the ancient Forms of Invocation that I ever saw are direct evidences against the Lutheran doctrine, which is, that the Bread and Wine are not the Body and Blood of Christ, which we receive in the Sacrament, but that the natural Body and Blood of our Saviour, which they assert to be diffused through the whole world, are united to the Bread and

Wine: whereas all the ancient Forms of Invocation pray, that the Bread and Wine may become the Body and Blood; or have words to that effect.

^p 2 Chron. xxx. 18, 19. *Secundum LXX* [Κύριος ἀγαθὸς ἐξιλάσθω ὑπὲρ πάσης καρδίας κατευθυνούσης ἐκσητῆσαι Κύριον τὸν Θεόν τῶν πατέρων αὐτῶν, καὶ οὐ κατὰ τὴν ἀγνείαν τῶν ἀγίων], et *Hebraicam veritatem*.

^q Grot. in Matt. xxvi. 18.

CHAP. did not keep the Law. It is true, the Jews do keep the Passover thus by halves in their present dispersion, I mean, as a feast only, not as a sacrifice. Grotius owns that this was an imperfect Passover, because the oblation was wanting. The Jews are forced to maim their Passover; they want the altar, at which alone they were to offer sacrifice, I mean, that at Jerusalem: and Christian Princes would scarce allow them the liberty of a public solemn Paschal sacrifice. I can only desire the prayers of all my readers, (that are convinced of this great truth, that the Eucharist was by Christ instituted to be the continual Sacrifice of His Church,) that God in His goodness would dispose the hearts of all governors of His people to restore the use and practice of the Christian Oblation; that so, from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof, the Peace-Offering may be offered to God.

The Sacrifice of the Eucharist does not impair the merits of Christ's Blood.

I am sensible that many men, who have Religion much at heart, do think, that the Sacrifice of the Eucharist lessens the value of the Great Sacrifice, and intrenches upon the all-sufficient merits of Christ's most precious Blood. And if I could discern any just grounds for such an opinion, I should think it my duty to apply the same or greater zeal for the abolition and annulling of this Sacrifice, than I have hitherto shewed for the re-establishment of it. But, certainly, Jesus Christ Himself is the best judge of what makes most for the honour of That Sacrifice which He offered. He well knows that nothing could more effectually raise That Sacrifice to such a just degree of esteem and dignity as it deserves, than to have the memorial of It perpetually repeated in that devout and solemn manner, that He Himself at first offered It; and that by obliging His Church to make her most important addresses to God in and by this Sacrifice, He took the most proper course to engrave this truth on the minds of men, that we are to expect no blessings to ourselves but through His Body and Blood. If indeed by sacrificing an ox or sheep only, or any other creature, that was not His Flesh and Blood in that manner, as the Bread and Wine is, we hoped to prevail with God, and to procure the mercies that we want; then there might be some pretence for saying, that by our own sacrifice we undervalued the Sacrifice of Christ; but since we offer nothing in the Eucharist, but what He, by His

own institution and deputation, hath made His Body and Blood; and since, by offering this, we do not pretend to add to the merits of His Death, but only to draw down to ourselves, and apply to our own souls, the blessings which He purchased by dying for us; this is a full demonstration, that the Sacrifice of the Eucharist is so far from abating the value of His Blood, that nothing can more heighten and exalt It; for by this we fully declare our belief, that there is no other name under heaven, whereby we can be saved, but that of Jesus; that His Passion is the centre of all our hopes. If, indeed, Christ Jesus could have applied the merits of His Death to every single believer, at the same time that He offered up the Great Sacrifice, then it must be confessed, that all further sacrifice had been perfectly needless and superfluous: but this was impossible to be done, because very great numbers of men were not then born; who were yet in future ages to be members of His Church, and who could not be saved but by having the mercies, which He purchased by His Death, applied to their own persons. Infinitely many sins were to be committed in ages to come, as Christ knew full well, and which therefore could not then be pardoned, because they were not committed; there would be many spiritual wants to be supplied; wants of men that were not in being, when our Saviour suffered. And that Christ might be a Saviour to men of all ages to the end of the world, that their pardon might be sealed, and that a means of relief might always be at hand for those that stood in need of it, Christ instituted the Sacrifice of the Eucharist as the main channel, by which all Divine graces and favours should be constantly communicated to His Church, and applied to the souls of particular persons in such a manner, that it might evidently appear, that His Death and sufferings are the spring-head of all the blessings we receive; for the most powerful, the only Sacrifice we have, is that of His Sacramental Body and Blood.

CHAP.
II.

CHAP. II. SECT. III.

Of the necessity of a frequent Eucharist.

WHEN I speak of the necessity of a frequent Eucharist, this implies two things :

1. That the Church take due care, that it be often celebrated ;
2. That it is the duty of private Christians frequently to join in the celebrating and receiving it.

Pastors
bound often
to admi-
nister the
Eucharist.

1. It is necessary that the Church take due care that it be often celebrated. And this care belongs chiefly to the Bishops and Priests ; for the people cannot receive it oftener than the Priests administer it. It is hard to say, whether the sin of the Church of Rome in preserving the daily Sacrifice without a daily Communion, or the sin of some other Churches in laying aside both the daily Sacrifice and the daily Communion, be more inexcusable. To maim the ordinances of God, by making it a Sacrifice without a feast, is what can never be defended ; no more can the rareness of Communions in some Reformed Churches.

The Lutherans, I am well assured, in this particular do excel all other Protestants ; for they have a Communion every Sunday and holiday throughout the year. The Church of Rome makes the same excuse for her private Masses, that we do for the rareness or unfrequency of our Communions. The Council of Trent^r expresses her wishes, that all the faithful who are present at Mass would communicate in that Sacrament ; and it is commonly said, that our Church orders the greatest part of the Communion-office to be read on Sundays and holidays, although there be no Communion, to intimate her earnest desire that the people would be prevailed upon to be more frequent in receiving the Sacrament. What the Council of Trent says concerning the desire of their

^r Sess. 22. De Sacrific. Missæ, cap. 6. Optaret quidem sacrosancta Synodus, ut in singulis Missis fideles adstantes non solum spirituali affectu, sed Sacramen-

tali etiam Eucharistiæ perceptione com-
municarent. [Concilium Tridentinum,
Ed. Paris, 1823.]

Church that the people would receive the Sacrament oftener, SECT.
III. seems mere colour and pretence; it is certain, the Clergy of that Church have the people so much at their disposal, that they might have good numbers of daily communicants, if they did not make it their business to discountenance frequent Communion. On the other hand it must be owned, that the generality of our Clergy do often and earnestly press the people to be more frequent in this duty; and therefore I do by no means despair of a cure for this evil, especially, if my Lords the Bishops would please to call on the Clergy to use their most diligent application to their several congregations in order to bring them, or a good number of them, to a weekly Communion. And I can see no reason to doubt but that, if they could but prevail on ten or half that number at the first, they would by degrees find that the company would be always growing by the prudent care and encouragement of their several pastors; and, by this means, we should by degrees imitate the primitive Church in the frequency of her Communion, as well as in other particulars. It is well known, that about forty years ago the Sacrament was generally administered but three or four times a year even in most of our populous places, and in our very Cathedrals but once a month. The very same industry and application, which has in some measure already rectified this miscarriage, would still bring us nearer to the perfection of the Apostolical age.

2. And, certainly, the people ought to look on themselves to be as much bound in duty frequently to join in the celebrating and receiving this Sacrament, as the Priests to administer it. I do not find either in Scripture or early antiquity, that there were any laymen who thought themselves at liberty to abstain or receive it until Tertullian's time; who^s speaks of very many that turned their back on the Eucharist on the Station-days (that is, Wednesdays and Fridays), because they fancied that by taking the Sacrament they should break their fast: but it is plain, that Tertullian himself did not approve this practice, and that he judged the Eucharist would rather raise than slacken men's devotions on the Station-days. It is deplorable to consider the great cold-

And the
people to
receive it.

C H A P. ness and indifference, which reigns now among the generality
II. of Christians of all sorts, as to this great duty of communicating: and though I have never met with any Divine of note, either in my reading or conversation, who has not been sensible that the backwardness of the people in this respect is both a sign and cause of the decay of Christian piety; yet I cannot say, that a due degree of zeal and persuasion has been used for the cure of so great an evil. And there are some opinions and prejudices, countenanced by Divines as well as others, which will be a perpetual bar to keep men at a distance from the Lord's Table, or however to render them less frequent and forward in their approaches to it.

Spiritual
eating of
Christ's
Flesh extra
Cenam, a
false notion.

If we will speak the truth, we shall find, that the Divines of the Church of Rome have themselves furnished the people with such notions as do effectually dispose them to be cold and indifferent as to the point of receiving the Sacrament. For it is a prevailing doctrine in that Church, that the bystanders at Mass may spiritually receive the Body and Blood of Christ; and this is supposed by the Council of Trent^t in the same chapter, where they profess their wishes that the people would more often Sacramentally communicate. They elsewhere say^u, that Spiritual Communion consists "in a desire of eating the Heavenly Bread laid before them, and in a lively faith." But, sure, all will agree with me, that a desire of eating, which yet does not carry them so far as to satisfy this spiritual appetite, even when the Heavenly Bread is laid before them, must be very imperfect and insincere. I have elsewhere shewed that, when men do in earnest wish for the Sacrament but cannot possibly obtain it, God takes the will for the deed; and, therefore, in this case, men may be said to receive Christ's Body in a spiritual manner. But the Trent Divines suppose that a man has it in his power to receive it with his mouth, though for some reason he chooses to abstain, and that such a man does spiritually receive the Sacrament; which I cannot conceive, except you will say that these men

^t *Ubi supra.* Illæ quoque Missæ (viz. privatæ) communes censeri debent; partim, quod in eis populus spiritualiter communicet, &c.

^u Sess. 12. cap. 8. *De usu admirabili hujus Sacramenti.* — Patres — do-

cuerunt — alios tantum spiritualiter (edere), illos nimurum, qui voto propositum illum Cœlestem Panem edentes, fide vivâ, quæ per dilectionem operatur, fructum Ejus et utilitatem sentiunt.

do indeed come with holy hunger after this Food, but that their appetite is damped by some mistakes and prejudices infused into them by the false guides of that Church. And alas ! to what purpose was it for the Council of Trent to wish that the people would frequently communicate, when at the same time they help them to an excuse for not doing it, by pretending that they do spiritually communicate, while they are only by-standers at the Sacrament ? They that are most opposite to the Papists in other respects have, in truth, gone further than the Council of Trent in this particular ; I mean, by asserting that, not only by a desire of the Sacrament but by any act of faith or devotion, men do spiritually eat the Flesh and drink the Blood of Christ. It signifies little for Clergymen to spur men to the Communion, if at the same time they check them too, by assuring them that they had as good forbear ; for that all the spiritual advantages to be received in the Sacrament may be had by an act of faith or good works. These mistakes proceed from the misunderstanding our Saviour in His discourse in the sixth chapter of St. John, which I have elsewhere^x largely proved to be meant of the Eucharist. It is evident, that the Council of Trent^y did not believe that context to speak strictly of Sacramental eating and drinking ; and it was this that carried them into the imaginary conceit of receiving Christ's Flesh and Blood in a spiritual manner. Torre^z, a notable Divine, insisted on the revoking of that decree, which left this discourse of our Saviour to be understood as every man pleased ; for he asserted with good reason, that it was to be understood of communicating in the Sacrament : but he could not be heard ; especially because it was apprehended that, if John vi. were taken as meant of the Eucharist, it must follow, that it was absolutely necessary that the people must communicate in both kinds ; for our Saviour declares it to be altogether as dangerous to omit the drinking of His Blood as the eating His Flesh. But this loose notion concerning the sixth of John prevailed not only in the Council of Trent, but long

^x See Part I. p. [457,] &c.

^y Sess. 21. cap. 1. Sed neque ex sermone illo, apud Joannem sexto, recte colligitur, utriusque speciei Communionem a Domino præceptam esse,

utcumque juxta varias sanctorum Patrum et Doctorum interpretationes intelligatur, &c.

^z See Father Paul's Hist. of this Council, book vi.

CHAP. before; and most of those Divines, who began the Reformation of religion, brought this error along with them from the Church of Rome, as they did several others; and by this means the generality of Protestants have been led into the same mistake. None that believed John vi. to be meant of the Eucharist, could ever have thought it sufficient to receive the Sacrament but once a year, which has been the settled judgment of the Church of Rome for many ages past. Calvin says^a, “The devil was the author of that law.” It is certain, that one chief motive for the passing of it was the opinion, that John vi. was not meant of the Sacrament but of some other notional manner of eating the Flesh and drinking the Blood of Christ.

It is my present business to shew, that it is necessary not only to administer and to receive the Eucharist, but to do it very frequently. And the very same reasons, which served to prove the necessity of it in general, and as it is a Sacrifice in particular, will also effectually prove the necessity of doing it very often. These reasons, as before shewed, are

Christ de-
signed fre-
quent Com-
munion.

1. Because it is a Divine Institution, and such an institution as is to be performed not once only in our lives, as Baptism, nor once in the year only, as the Jewish Passover, but is frequently to be repeated; and our Saviour, when He first instituted this feast upon a sacrifice, sufficiently intimates this, by saying, “Do” or offer “this, as oft as ye drink it;” and, “as often as ye eat this Bread, and drink this Cup.” But He does this more fully and with greater force in His discourse on the Eucharist in the sixth of St. John’s Gospel: for I have elsewhere^b shewed, that the following verses of that chapter are thus to be rendered, viz., ver. 49, “Your fathers fed upon manna in the wilderness, and are dead;” ver. 50, “This is the Bread, which cometh down from Heaven, that a man may feed thereon, and not die;” ver. 51, “If any man feed on this Bread, he shall live for ever;” ver. 53, “Except ye feed on the Flesh of the Son of Man, and make His Blood your drink, ye have no life in you;” ver. 54, “Whoso feedeth on My Flesh, and maketh My Blood his

^a Institut. [lib. iv. cap. xvii. sect. 46.
“Et sane hæc consuetudo, quæ semel
quotannis communicare jubet, certis-
simum est diaboli inventum; cuius-

cunque tandem ministerio invecta fu-
erit.”

^b See Part I. p. [532,] &c.

drink, hath Eternal Life ;” ver. 56, “ He that feedeth on My Flesh, and maketh My Blood his drink, dwelleth in Me, and I in him ;” ver. 58, “ This is that Bread which came down from Heaven, not as your fathers fed on manna, and are dead ; he that feedeth on this Bread shall live for ever.” From this it is evident to a demonstration, that it is not any occasional eating and drinking, not a receiving the Sacrament once upon a death-bed, or once or twice a year, but a constant “ feeding on it ” and “ making it our drink,” that Christ requires of us. Manna was the daily food of the Israelites in the wilderness ; and it is evident by this discourse of our Saviour, that He intended His Sacramental Flesh and Blood to be the constant spiritual provision of His Church. Therefore the most primitive Christians lived in the daily use and practice of it, and called and esteemed it their “ daily Bread.” They, who dwelt near the place of public assembly, did every day join in this holy ordinance. They did not find it inconsistent with their worldly business to spend an hour or more every day in the week in attending on this most beneficial Divine service. They kept their assemblies before day, and by this means they endeavoured not only to meet with the greater secrecy, that they might not be discovered by their persecutors, but also to leave time enough for their worldly trade and affairs. And, certainly, a daily Communion duly celebrated was the intention of our Saviour, when He speaks of making it our food, if we will take Him in the most strict sense ; and they, who do of choice and from a principle of conscience daily administer and receive the Eucharist, they do in the most perfect manner comply with the will of our Lord. And we ought to pray and endeavour that the whole Church of Christ may be by degrees restored to this state of perfection. I apprehend, that a weekly Communion is the most that we can at present hope to attain ; and, by going thus far, we shall come up to the practice of the generality of Christians in the second and third centuries, though not of the first Apostolical age. It is observable, that our Saviour and the writers of the New Testament have nowhere directly and plainly declared, how often every Church or congregation shall assemble together, how often men should hear sermons, or even pray in private;

C H A P. II. therefore we are not to wonder, that the certain time of communicating is nowhere expressly determined. And, indeed, if we consider the various circumstances of Churches and of private men, we shall find that it is next to an impossibility to fix any certain stated rule in this case, which may fit all ages and places and conditions of men. Therefore, when Christ bids us to "pray always," when St. James exhorts us to be "swift to hear," and when we are called upon in the sixth chapter of St. John to "feed on the Flesh of Christ" in the Eucharist, the safest way of understanding those texts is, to look upon them as laws obliging us to perform these duties as often as possibly we can, without doing any notable damage or inconvenience to ourselves as to our temporal concerns. He, indeed, that is a layman cannot communicate oftener than the Priest, under whom he lives, will administer it; and if, therefore, he never willingly omits an opportunity of receiving, he can have nothing further to answer for. If the Priest be tardy or backward in this principal part of his office, he alone must bear the blame of his neglect. If his hands are tied by the laws or customs of the Church to which he belongs, or by the obstinacy of the people, who persist in refusing to join with him in this ordinance, then the Priest is innocent; and the guilt of neglecting or rarely celebrating the Communion falls upon the governors of the Church for not repealing or altering such laws as restrain or discountenance frequent Communion; or upon the people, who withstand his persuasions and shew an aversion to their duty. If the law or custom of any Church do not allow of a weekly Communion, it is certain, that law needs amendment, and that custom is not to be endured. If the laws of the Church do admit of weekly Communions, but the Priest or people or both do rather choose to follow the custom of monthly or quarterly Communions, they who are guilty of this neglect must remember, that they are to give account of themselves for passing a slight on this Divine Institution.

Frequent
Communion
necessary,
because
this is the
most pro-
per Chris-

II. The necessity of frequent Communion will appear, if we consider the Eucharist as the proper peculiar worship of the Christian Church. St. Paul assures us, that the old Church, consisting of "the twelve tribes, did instantly perform their service or worship night and day;" that is,

the continual morning and evening sacrifice was without intermission offered by the priests in the temple, and the shew-bread was perpetually placed before the Lord. And what was done by the priests in behalf of the whole body of the Jewish people and at their expence, is spoken of by the Apostle as a thing done by themselves. Now, certainly, the new people of God, the Christian Church, must not be destitute of a continual sacrifice, no more than the old one. As for the sacrifice of private prayer and praise, this was as constantly offered by all single pious Jews, as it can be by Christians; but this is not the Sacrifice of the Church, this is not the proper public worship of Christ's mystical Body. 'The continual Sacrifice' was the title of old given to the Eucharist by St. Clement^c, the fellow-labourer with St. Paul, and by Chrysostom^d above three hundred years after him; and, certainly, it ought to be esteemed and practised as such in all ages, at least in all Cathedral churches, and wherever a competent number of communicants can be found.

It is true, the main body of the people of the Jews were not obliged to attend the public worship above three times in the year; and what they did on the Sabbath-days in their synagogues was not the proper peculiar worship of the Jewish Church. No other worship but that performed at the altar in Jerusalem was ordained by the Law of God. Synagogues were mere human inventions; and the devotions there offered were a will-worship, though very good and commendable. There is no mention of these places of assembly till the time of Asaph the Psalmist; not the Asaph who lived in David's time, but he who lamented the devastations of the temple under Nebuchadnezzar or Antiochus. They could not personally join in eating of their sacrifices but at the three great feasts, or when they came of their own accord to offer some occasional devotions. At other times they could join in the public worship, as they did, only by praying with their faces toward Jerusalem, at the time when the continual burnt-offering was laid on the altar, and the incense was burning; but the Christian Sacrifice is to be consumed by the Priest and people feasting

^c See Part I. p. [152,] &c.

^d In Epist. ad Ephes. [cap. i. Homil.

iii. tom. xi. p. 23. Ed. Ben.] he calls it

θυσία καθημερινή.

SECT. III.

tian wor-

ship.

Acts xxvi.

7.

Numb.

xxviii. 4;

Exod. xxix.

42.

Christians
obliged to
be more
frequent in
their Sacri-
fice, than
the Jews
were.

Psalm
lxxiv. 8.

CHAP. II. together; or at least by a number of Clergymen assisting at this holy ordinance, which was the case at the first institution of it by our blessed Lord; for He had then none but His Apostles present with Him. And all good Christians cannot but wish that, wherever there is a body of Clergymen living within a convenient distance, they would combine together in order to restore the Daily Sacrifice and Communion; and there is no reason to doubt but that the people, by the influence of their example, would gradually be wrought into a zeal and holy emulation in this most peculiar Christian worship. Chrysostom, in the place before cited, does most passionately lament the backwardness of the people in receiving the Sacrament, at the beginning of the fifth century. This has ever since been a growing evil, and especially here in England. In the late Great Rebellion, the Eucharist was wholly disused and laid aside in many populous places; this was one signal instance of the glorious Reformation intended by the faction which then prevailed. And it is very grievous to consider, what vast numbers of grown men and women do still die amongst us without ever receiving the Sacrament at all, and yet are looked upon and treated as persons that lived and died in the communion of our Church. In the Church of Rome, he is a good Catholic, who receives once a year; and, among the Greeks^e, he is esteemed a Christian of the highest rank, who does it three or four times in twelve months; and the Lutherans, I know, greatly complain of the tardiness of their people as to this great duty. God give to all Christians a sense of their sinful neglect of this most excellent and singular worship! And I persuade myself, that if they would once permit themselves to be convinced of this great truth, that the Eucharist is the only proper peculiar public worship of the Church of Christ, they would mend their pace, and be more ready and frequent in this Gospel-service. For how is it possible, that men who are in earnest Christians, can answer it to God and their own consciences, when the question shall be seriously put to them, how they dare live in a long and wilful neglect of the Christian wor-

^e See Christoph. Angelus's Enchiridion, cap. 22. [Ed. Cantab. 1619.] η δις, η τρις, η τετράκις τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ μεταλαμβάνειν τὸ τίμιον Σῶμα καὶ Άἷμα Εἰώθασιν οἱ εὐγενεῖς τῶν Ἑλλήνων ἀπαξ, η δις, η τρις, η τετράκις τοῦ ἐνιαυτοῦ μεταλαμβάνειν τὸ τίμιον Σῶμα καὶ Άἷμα τοῦ Κυρίου.

ship? He would scarce have been thought worthy of the name of an Israelite under the Law, who wholly forbore going to the temple at the three yearly feasts; or who, if he did go, yet thought it sufficient to hear the Law read or the glosses or discourses of the learned Doctors upon it, or only joined in the psalms or prayers that were there sung or rehearsed; but refused to perform his part in the sacrifices there to be offered, which was the most principal and perfect part of the service for which the temple was built, and which made way for the acceptance of all the other devotions which the Law required. Just such a Christian is he, who is constant in other less valuable parts of Divine worship, but chooses never or very rarely to keep consort with the Christian Church in this most necessary and important branch of the Gospel-service.

This will be of greater weight still, when it is considered that the reason of Christ's making the Eucharist the principal worship of His Church was this, namely, because it is the commemoration of His Death. For the Death of Christ being the greatest and most admirable Providence that ever did or could betide us, the foundation of all our hopes and of our claim to the Divine favour, therefore it was not only proper but necessary, that the commemoration of it should be our principal Christian worship. And it is for the same reason necessary, that we should be frequent in doing it, not only because by this means we express our gratitude for the greatest benefit which God ever vouchsafed to mankind; but because we have no other thing to plead with God, whereby to move Him to bestow His mercies on us. And, therefore, he who seldom communicates is one who is seldom thankful to God for His redemption of mankind by Christ Jesus; he is one who seldom makes his addresses to God in the most powerful and prevailing manner, that is, by shewing forth Christ's Death to God, as the most prevailing means to obtain His blessing. It is true, a man may by meditation remember Christ's Death, and may in his prayers give God thanks for it, and plead the merits of it in behalf of himself and others; but then he does not remember it in that solemn manner that Christ requires, nor does he offer his praises to God, and allege the merits of Christ's Blood in that way which Christ enjoins: and, in things of so great moment, we

Especially,
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CHAP. II. are not to take the course which seems best to our own fancies, but to follow that method to which Christ hath directed us. And it is certain, that He did never hint to us any desire of our remembering His Death but in the Eucharist only; and since the commemoration of His Death is so reasonable and so necessary, and that the doing of it in any other way is mere will-worship, and since we must often have just occasion to plead the merits of it with God, in order to procure the good effects of it; more need not be said to prove that it is necessary to live in the frequent use of the Eucharist, as it is the principal worship of the Christian Church and the commemoration of our Saviour's Death.

III. We may be convinced of the great necessity of the frequent use of the Eucharist, if we consider it as a means of covenanting, and communicating with God and each other.

Frequent Communion necessary, as it is a means of covenanting with God.

By the Gospel-Covenant only, we are capable of salvation; and therefore it greatly concerns us to be well assured, that we duly lay hold on this Covenant, and renew our claims, and repair the breaches of it; and this can be done in and by the Eucharist only. Herein we do in the most perfect manner communicate with God and His Church, as has been shewed in the two foregoing Sections. Now this Communion with God and His Church does not consist in one transient action, but in the frequent and constant repeating this action. No man is reputed to be a member of a family, because he does sometimes occasionally or accidentally sit down at the same table and feast with them. Nothing but a continual taking his meals, or (to say the least) a very frequent eating with them, is sufficient to this purpose; and therefore none ought to think himself of "the household of God," but he who does on every opportunity eat the "Bread of God" together with his fellow-servants.

The Communion of Christ with His Church, and of the members of this Church with each other, is in the Scripture compared to that of a branch with the stock or tree, and of a limb with the body. Now it is certain, that, if the branch cease to partake of the juice or sap, it forthwith dies and is fit for nothing but the fire; and the limb, that does not par-

take of the blood and spirits which circulate in the body, SECT.
III. becomes perfectly useless and an encumbrance. And from this we are given to understand, that our Communion with God and His Church is obstructed and annulled by any wilful neglect of the means appointed for maintenance of this communion; and of these means, I suppose, all will allow the Eucharist to be the principal. The union between Christ and His Church, and of Christians between each other, does not consist in now and then accidentally meeting together, but in a perpetual uninterrupted conjunction. It is true, some allowance must always be made for parables and similes; it cannot be expected, that men should always, night and day (in the literal sense), be employed in this or any other duty; but, certainly, for a man to pretend to be of Christ's Body, and yet not to join in that action, by which the unity of this Body is to be preserved, once a week or even once a month, is such a Communion as may rather be called a 'separation.' And if "we are made One Body by being partakers of the One Loaf," if "we are made to drink into the One Spirit" by partaking of the Cup in the Eucharist, as St. Paul plainly ^{1 Cor. x.} teaches us; then, certainly, those Christians have a very sad account to give of themselves, who choose for the most part or very often to turn their backs upon this Divine ordinance, and so wilfully interrupt the Communion betwixt God and their own souls, betwixt the Church of Christ and themselves. And the case is very plain; for if "he, who feedeth on the ^{John vi. 56.} Flesh of Christ, dwelleth in Him," then he, who seldom or never eats It, cannot have Christ dwelling in him, but must be alienated from the Life of God.

There is a necessity of frequently joining in the Eucharist, in order to the preserving our Covenant and Communion with God, if we consider the particulars, in which this covenant and communion consist. And

1. On God's part, it consists in pardon of sin, grace to amend our lives, and the assurances of a happy immortality. These are mercies, of which we always more or less stand in need, and which we have no stated method of obtaining but in the Holy Eucharist.

(1.) In many things we offend all; and when a Christian has sinned, he must not only confess it, but he must apply As the Eu-
charist is a seal of par-
don.

CHAP. to God through Jesus Christ for pardon ; and the most proper method of applying ourselves to God through Jesus is, to do it in and by the Sacrifice of the Eucharist ; and there alone we can have our pardon sealed, as has been sufficiently proved. And the best of men cannot but believe, that they are often guilty of sins of ignorance and surprise ; that they commit many faults through want of circumspection, which wholly escape their notice ; and that, through the treachery of their memories, they often forget those sins which they knowingly commit ; and that, therefore, they have perpetual occasion to apply themselves to God for pardon. Upon this consideration, all who believe that the Eucharist was ordained for the remission of sins, must see themselves under a necessity of using it very frequently for the cure of their guilt. I have fully shewed^f, that the Eucharist was always esteemed in the primitive Church a perfect Absolution, and how the Church of Rome has obscured and perverted this doctrine, by pretending that men must be entirely absolved from their sins before they receive the Sacrament. And it is very evident, that by this doctrine they have very much lessened the value of the Eucharist, and rendered the receiving of it frequently less needful than it was thought by the primitive Christians, who used it as a certain cure for their daily sins and infirmities. If, indeed, our sins be of the grosser sort, or if we allow ourselves in any evil habit, then it is evident, as will hereafter appear, that we ought to abstain until we have reformed ourselves ; but if our offences are such only as proceed from the infirmities of nature, then we are not to think that they do so separate betwixt God and us as to render us unfit for the Sacrament, but are a sufficient motive to make us more quick and constant in this duty, that we may obtain mercy for what is past, and strengthen ourselves for the time to come.

A means of grace. 2. Grace, or inward strength for the doing our duty, is another benefit of duly offering and receiving it : and as human nature does perpetually want new supplies of spiritual vigour ; so all that are sensible of this want will make use of those means, which God has ordained for this end. We often meet with violent temptations ; we find just occasion frequently to

^f See Chap. III. Sect. i.

complain of great hardships and difficulties, both in relation to our spiritual and temporal condition. And whither should we go to recruit our strength and courage, to refresh our languishing souls and to renew our joys, but to the Altar of God, where the Holy Spirit is always ready to shed Its comforts upon the hearts of all devout communicants?

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(3.) A happy resurrection to eternal life is a blessing, of which we can never make too sure. All wise and good men make it their daily study and endeavour to do every thing that may raise their hopes, and increase their modest assurances, of a blessed immortality. Too many honest well-meaning Christians are full of grievous jealousies and suspicions concerning their eternal state; and, certainly, if there be any cure on this side of heaven for these tormenting fears, it is the constant attendance at God's Altar, with the best preparation that they are able to make. Nothing can ever clear their doubts and give them a full tide of humble confidence, if the very frequent receiving of the Holy Sacrament do not. He that every week or every day has his pardon sealed, his graces renewed, and the promises of eternal happiness repeated to him and applied to his soul in the most proper and solemn manner that God Himself can do it (without a miracle), he certainly takes the most proper course to cheer and glad his soul, and to preserve himself from weariness and fainting in the pilgrimage and holy war, in which he is engaged. If a Christian be never so steady and forward in all other parts of his duty, yet "except he feed on the Flesh of Christ, and make Christ's Blood his drink, he has no life in him;" and it is impossible, that any man can be sure that he does "feed on the Flesh of Christ," if he does not often receive the Holy Sacrament; for I think I have effectually proved, that this text is meant of the Eucharist. But now, he, who is not only industrious and circumspect in all other duties but likewise very constant in his attendance at the Lord's Table, may with the greatest degree of certainty expect a happy immortality, and say, "Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly;" he may, with the most perfect degree of holy hope, repose his confidence in Christ, Who hath promised, that "he that feedeth on His Flesh hath eternal life."

2. On our part, covenanting and communicating with God

C H A P.

II.

As the Eu-
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implies a sincere exercise of all Christian virtues and graces at present, and a resolution of continuing in the practice of them for the future. No man is fit for the Eucharist but he, who has a sincere love and charity for all men, and such a love to God as prevails over all other affections of his soul; none but he that is so humble, as not to assume any thing to himself that is above him; so content, as to use no unjust means in order to mend his condition; so patient, as not to murmur against God's Providence; so chaste and temperate, as not to have (of late at least) committed any wilful uncleanness or excess; so devout, as to be fully convinced that he owes all the spiritual and temporal blessings he enjoys to God's goodness, and that from Him alone he must expect whatever he wants, and therefore comes to the Holy Sacrament with a heart full of thanks for what he has already received, and of zeal and pious desires of those graces of which he most of all stands in need; and especially he must be so penitent, as to be truly grieved for all his known sins, and earnest in his petitions for pardon for all sins, whether known or unknown. He, who wants any of these holy dispositions, can by no means be fit for the Eucharist; because there can be no communion betwixt God and a vicious soul; for "what fellowship hath light with darkness?" This is the fundamental article of the Christian Covenant, that "Whoever names the Name of Christ must depart from all iniquity;" and "Without peace and holiness no man can see the Lord:" therefore, since in the Eucharist we do profess to covenant and have communion with God, it does from thence plainly follow, that no man is a proper guest for the Lord's Table but he, who has a sincere aversion to and hatred of all sin, and a real disposition to all the virtues and graces, which the Gospel requires of us. And it was evidently the design of Christ in instituting the Eucharist, to bring all His disciples under the strictest obligation to the duties of religion; and all serious Christians are so sensible of this, that they do never presume to receive the Sacrament, until they have wrought themselves for the present into a real sorrow for all their past sins, and into a resolution of avoiding those sins, and "walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord" for the time to come.

Now it needs no proof, that it is necessary we should often and even constantly covenant and communicate with God in this manner, because they who do it seldom, once a year, or once a quarter, are in great danger of losing all their labour. For, during those long intervals of time in which they do not receive at all, their good dispositions grow flat and cold, their virtuous resolutions slacken, and by degrees wholly vanish and are forgotten. It may perhaps prove otherwise with some particular men of more than common firmness and pious vigour; but it is too evident that with many it is far otherwise. They are very precise and devout for some days before and after their receiving, but for the remainder of the time they are loose and careless, and open to all temptations, lukewarm and indifferent to all duty. This should convince them of the necessity of being more frequent in this duty of receiving the Eucharist; for it is evident, that if they did daily or weekly revive their religious fervours, as they have formerly done once a year or once a quarter, this would make them such men through the whole course of their lives, as they now are only a little before and after their stated times of receiving; and it was by daily, or, at furthest, weekly Sacraments, that the primitive Christians kept their covenant with God undefiled, and their communion with Him uninterrupted. We have all an unhappy natural bias to vice; and if, when we have taken some pains to kindle the flame of Divine love and devotion in our breasts, we do not take care to keep it alive, and cherish and improve it by the same means which first raised it, it will soon go out and die. Therefore the only way to prevent the loss of our labour in religion is, to keep ourselves always up to our holy vows and engagements, never to loosen the reins of our resolutions by abstaining willingly for weeks or months together from the Eucharist; for, by being remiss for a few days, we shall find we shall lose more ground than we can recover in a much longer time.

There is a known vulgar objection against this; I mean, that familiarity breeds contempt; and that when the Eucharist is so often received as to become a thing of course, it would in a few months or years make no impression upon men's minds; and therefore could not, in all probability, be

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The objec-
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C H A P. II. attended with such beneficial effects as I have hitherto supposed.

I shall answer this objection in the words of the most pious and judicious Mr. Nelson^g, of blessed memory, viz., “Familiarity and intimate converse with men and things in this world is apt to diminish our value and respect for them; it is quite the contrary in spiritual things, the frequent use whereof is the likeliest means to increase our respect and veneration towards them. An uninterrupted enjoyment of the good things of this world may very well lessen our esteem of them, because it convinces us they do not administer that happiness which they promise; but, the more we employ ourselves in our spiritual exercises, we find they produce a satisfaction that rises above what we expected or worldly men can imagine. The better we know men, the more we discover their frailties and imperfections; and therefore our familiarity with the best of men may be apt to abate that respect we paid them at a distance, by reason of that mixture of frailty which accompanies their greatest virtues. But, the oftener we converse with God in His holy ordinances, the more we shall admire His Divine perfections; for an object of infinite perfection in itself, and of infinite goodness to us, will always raise our admiration, and heighten our respect and esteem, the more we contemplate it; it being the discovery of some imperfection, of some flaw, where we thought there was none, that lessens our esteem and provokes our contempt.” He further observes, that “This objection will hold with as much force against frequent prayer, which the precepts of the Gospel make necessary.—If people reap no benefit from their frequent Communion, the fault must be laid upon the negligence of their lives, and upon the slight care they take in the examination of their consciences: and, if upon a strict inquiry they find any secret sin unrepented of, any habitual neglect of their duty, this great bar to the influence of grace must be removed.—They that owe their ardours at the Altar to their seldom approaching the Holy Table, have too much reason to conclude they are more affected from the rarity and unusualness of the action than from the Divine virtue that flows from it; like those that

^g Of Frequent Communion, p. 46—51. Edit. 1st.

converse seldom with men of great quality and title, the awe they feel of their greatness proceeds more from their not being used to frequent their company than from the opinion of their true worth and dignity: so that these people seem rather to be under the power of nature than the influences of grace. I am sure, experience will inform us, that the devoutest ages of the Church were those wherein the practice of frequent Communion most prevailed. And in the accounts we have of the greatest Saints, never any one excelled in the virtues of a Christian life but what distinguished himself by frequently nourishing his soul with this Heavenly Bread. Nay, I dare appeal to those holy souls who live under a strict sense of their duty in this particular, whether their affections to the world do not lose ground, and their desires toward Heaven do not grow more intense and vigorous," &c. In this and what follows, he did, no doubt, speak his own sense, which he had gained by a long experience of many years. Upon which account, I look upon what he says on this occasion to be of more weight than if it had come from the most learned men in the world; and therefore, as he humbly appeals to others, so all constant retainers to the Altar will agree, that no person since the Apostolical age was a more competent judge in this point, because no man had a greater experimental knowledge of it than himself.

I will only add, that there is just cause to apprehend, that one great occasion of the unfruitfulness of many who live in the frequent use of the Sacrament, is to be imputed to the low and sorry notion which they have conceived of this most heavenly Ordinance. It is looked upon by very many to be it, a bare remembrance, a mere type, figure, and shadow, destitute of all inward spiritual power or efficacy; an outward rite and ceremony, to be performed as often or seldom as every man's own discretion shall direct him; he, who considers the Sacrament as nothing more than what has hitherto been mentioned, can reap no great advantage by it, how often soever he receive it; he may, indeed, by thus often receiving, imprint the memory of his Saviour's Death upon his own mind; and this is an effect of the Communion, however or wheresoever administered, that is not to be despised.

Low notions of the Eucharist, one cause of unfruitfulness in the use of it.

CHAP. II. He, that further esteems the Sacrament as a Covenant between God and his own soul and the whole Church, may, by frequently receiving it, be the better assured of God's mercy toward him, and be the more sensible of his own obligations to live in obedience to God and in brotherly love with his fellow-Christians; yet still, if he believes that by any other act of faith, devotion, or obedience, he does as truly feed on the Flesh of Christ and drink His Blood as if he received the Eucharist, he can have no just reason to be so frequent in this duty of communicating in the Sacrament as he, who is thoroughly persuaded, as all men ought to be, that Christians can ordinarily covenant and have communion with God in the Eucharist only. And I conceive it impossible in the nature of things to prevail on the Christians of this age to be as frequent and constant communicants, as they of the Apostolic age were; until they have the same notions of the Eucharist, which they had. And when Christians are generally convinced that this Holy Institution was designed by Christ to be the constant, proper, and peculiar worship of the Church; that in it alone we make our most effectual addresses to God for pardon, grace, and salvation; and that there alone we receive from God the full assurances of these mercies; and that, therefore, by keeping at a distance from the Eucharist we "deprive ourselves of the Bread of God," as Ignatius has it; that we "are separated from the Body of Christ, and remain far off from salvation," as St. Cyprian expresses it: then, and not till then, we shall have reason to hope that they "will continue stedfastly in breaking of Bread," as well as in other duties of Religion.

CHAP. III.

OF THE UNITY OF THE EUCHARIST.

It is certain, the Eucharist was ever esteemed but One by the primitive Christians and by all judicious Divines, though never so often administered and received by Priests and people, and in places vastly distant from each other; and no one will, I suppose, contradict me in this point, since St. Paul assures us, that "we" (Christians) "are all One Bread" or Loaf, "and One Body: for we are all partakers of that One Loaf." Instead therefore of saying any more to prove that the Eucharist is but One, I shall rather make it my business to shew how or in what sense it is so. Now I conceive the Eucharist is One,

1. Considered as the same Sacrifice of Christ's Sacramental Body and Blood;
2. As it is sanctified by One and the same Spirit;
3. As the effects of It are the same in all worthy receivers;
4. As the rites and manner of performing It were intended to be the same;
5. As the offerers and communicants are One, that is,
 1. The Priests, who are One by their Commission;
 2. As both Priests and people were intended to be One
1. In faith, 2. In charity, 3. In government and discipline;
6. As to the place, that is, the Catholic Church, as opposed to all heretical and schismatical assemblies.

The Eucharist is One, considered as One Sacrifice of Christ's Sacramental Body and Blood. The Bread and Wine, used in the several congregations of Christians, can no more be said to be One and the same in their own substance or Eucharist One, as it represents the One Body of Christ.

C H A P. nature, than the lambs offered by the several families of the
III. Israelites were one and the same lamb ; and yet St. Paul assures us that we are all partakers of “that One Loaf,” and that thereby we are made “One Body.” It is therefore “One Loaf,” as It represents the One natural Body of Christ sacrificed for our sins ; as It represents the One mystical Body of Christ, wheresoever dispersed throughout the world. Therefore, if you will suppose a million of loaves to be consecrated by as many Priests, at one and the same time, in an equal number of congregations, yet they are still, in the Mystery, but One Loaf ; because they all represent but One Body of Christ, and are that One Body in power and efficacy. In this sense it is that Chrysostom says^h, “We offer but One Sacrifice ;” and that Cyprian assertsⁱ, “We ought to do or offer nothing in the Eucharist, but what our Lord did and offered :” and so say other of the ancients ; for they believed that He did, in the Eucharist, make the One Oblation of Himself. And, in this sense, Ignatius speaks to the Philadelphians^k of having “but One” Eucharist ; “because,” says he, “the Flesh of Jesus Christ is but One, the Cup but One in the Unity of His Blood :” and he charges the Ephesians^l to “break but One Bread” or Loaf. Whether there were more than one congregation of sound Christians in either of these cities, is not certain : but if there were never so many, yet, by preserving the Unity of the Church, they preserved the Unity of the Eucharist ; and all the masses of Bread used in the several assemblies were but One Body of Christ. The words, going immediately before those just now cited from the Epistle to the Philadelphians, do well deserve our consideration. This holy Martyr tells them, that “If any one follow him that makes a schism, he shall not inherit the kingdom of God ; he that walks after any strange opinion, does not consent” or accord “to the Passion^m;” that is, by departing from the Church, he disavows the Eucharist. For I have elsewhereⁿ shewed, that the Sacrament is by the ancients called “the Passion of Christ.” Schismatics withdraw from the Eucharist of the Church ; and what they offer, eat, and drink in

^h P. p. 43. Ap.ⁱ m. 9, 10. p. 13, 14. Ap.^k g. p. 2. Ap.^l b. p. 2. Ap.^m οὐ συγκατατίθεται τῷ πάθει.ⁿ See Part I. p. [143,] &c.

their separate assemblies, is not the Passion of Christ, or the CHAP.
III. True Sacrament of His Body and Blood. That this was the meaning of this blessed Martyr appears from the next words, "Study therefore to enjoy the One Eucharist ; for the Flesh of Jesus Christ is but One."

2. The Eucharist is One, as sanctified by the same Holy Spirit. I have formerly shewed at large^o, that it was the settled judgment of the Primitive Church of the first ages, that the Holy Spirit did by Its secret power overshadow the elements of Bread and Wine, and by Its Divine influence render them the Body and Blood of Christ in efficacy and virtue, without changing their natural substance. And this is the doctrine of St. Paul, when he speaks of Christians' being "made to drink into the One Spirit ;" and our Saviour Himself, after He had spoken of feeding His people with His Flesh and Blood, further adds, that the words which He spake were "Spirit and Life^p ;" that He did not promise them mere bodily things, but His Sacramental Body and Blood, replenished with the Holy Spirit, and receiving by this means a Life-giving power. There can therefore no more be two Eucharists, than two Bodies of Christ or two Holy Spirits ; and Gaudentius^q has well expressed the primitive doctrine in the following words ; " In the type of the Legal Passover, not only one lamb was killed, but many. There was a lamb killed for every family, for one was not sufficient for them all ; for that was a figure, not the verity of the Lord's Passion. In the verity, under which we are, One died for all ; and that same [One], being offered in every Church in the Sacrament of Bread and Wine, enlivens, if believed on ; and sanctifies the consecrators ;" that is, the Priests. And a little after^r he tells us, that " As Bread is brought to perfection by fire, so is the Sacramental Body of Christ perfectly consecrated by the Holy Ghost."

3. The effects of the Eucharist are the same in all worthy receivers. These are, the pardon of sin, the influence of grace, the assurance of a happy resurrection, as I have over and again shewed in the foregoing part of this work. Some good communicants may receive these effects in greater

^o See Part I. p. [266—296.]

^p See Part I. p. [287.]

^q a. p. 30. Ap.

^r d. p. 31. Ap.

C H A P. III. degrees than others ; but all that come to the Lord's Table with a pious and well-prepared mind have these benefits conferred on them in such measures, as they want, or are qualified to accept and use them. There is no occasion to enlarge in so plain a case; it is sufficient to say, that the same cause must produce the same effects in all cases, where the persons, upon whom the operation is to be made, are equally capable of receiving benefit by it.

How the manner of the Eucharist ought to be the same everywhere.

4. The rites and manner of performing the Eucharist were intended to be the same, I do not mean as to every minute circumstance or punctilio, but as to the main. The rites, circumstances, or modes of administering and receiving the Eucharist may be divided into three ranks: first, some are perfectly indifferent, as the signing of the elements with the cross, the placing the Bread and Wine on the side-altar before they are brought to the proper Altar, the use of leavened or unleavened Bread, the vestment or habit used either by Priest or people, so it be decent and without any air of levity or immoderate gaudiness, any affectation either of splendour or sordidness, and agreeable to the custom or laws of the Church: the posture of receiving I reckon too among the indifferent rites; I mean, whether it be done kneeling or standing; for sitting I think not to be endured. And it is a vulgar error to suppose that our Saviour and the Apostles did not either kneel or stand, while they were performing this most sacred office. And among these are especially to be understood all the foppish ceremonies introduced into the Latin and Greek Churches in the middle and dark ages, which are too many and too frivolous to be particularly named with any tolerable degree of patience; in a word, I reckon all rites indifferent, which cannot be reduced to the two following heads.

Kiss of charity, mixed Cup, and the elements being offered by the communicants, commendable rites.

A second sort of rites or modes are those which are Apostolical, and which greatly deserve to be restored, but which do not seem necessary to the essence of the Eucharist; such is the kiss of charity, mentioned both by St. Peter and St. Paul, allowed, I think, by all learned men to have been used in the first ages of the Church^s, just at the entrance on the

* See Const. Apost., lib. ii. cap. 57. lib. viii. c. 12.

hol action^t. This custom began to be laid aside in the C H A P.
Western Churches in the ninth century. Whether it con- III.
tinued so long or ceased sooner in the Greek Church, I know 1 Pet. v.
not; but in the twelfth century^u there was no such ceremony 14.
practised, except between Bishops only. This rite was in- Rom. xvi.
tended to express the mutual charity of the communicants; xvi. 16; 1 Cor.
and since it is authorized by the Apostles themselves, I can- xvi. 20;
not but think that it ought to have been retained; or, if the 2 Cor. xiii.
kiss be not now thought consistent with that gravity of mind, 12; 1 Thess.
which best suits so solemn an institution, in an age so much v. 25.
disposed to turn every thing into jest and raillery, shaking
of hands or embracing, (the men with the men, the women
with the women only,) might have been used instead of it. This
certainly had been much better than the kissing of a crucifix
or some such instrument of superstition, which is now prac-
tised in the room of the holy kiss in the Latin Church. Such
is the rite of mingling of water with the Sacramental Wine;
I have spoken very particularly of this before^x, and now shall
only add, that it seems to me to have been an Apostolical
Use, and very probably practised by Christ Jesus Himself^y;
therefore I cannot but wish that it might be restored. It is
certain, that Martin Luther^z retained the use of it for some
time, after he had renounced the Communion of the Church
of Rome; as also did our first Reformers in the reign of
Edward VI. A third rite of this sort is, the people's first
offering that Bread and Wine to the Priest, which is after-
wards to be consecrated for the Holy Eucharist. That this

^t See Amalarius de Eccles. Officiis, lib. iii. c. xxxii. [apud Hittorium, Ed. Paris. 1624.]

^u See Zonaras in Can. Laodic. 19. and Balsamon in eundem.

^x See Chap. I. Sect. iv.

^y Yet Mons. Pfaffy produces some words from Origen's twelfth Homily on Jeremiah xiii. 12. [tom. iii. p. 194. Ed. Ben.] which expressly assert, that Christ administered the Eucharist in unmixed Wine. I will give the words somewhat more at large than Mons. Pfaffy has done, that my reader may be better be enabled to make a judgment of them. "Ιδε δέ μοι τὸν Σωτῆρα ρῦσι τὸ Πάσχα ἀναβάνοντα εἰς ἀνάγαιον μέγα ἐστρωμένον καὶ κεκοσμητεον, καὶ ἔορτάζοντα μετὰ τῶν μαθη-

τῶν, καὶ διδόντα αὐτοῖς τὸ ποτήριον, περὶ οὐ γέγραπται, οὐχ' ὅτι ἐκέρασεν δ' Ἰησοῦς γάρ εὑφράνων τοὺς μαθητὰς ἀκράτῳ εὑφράνει, καὶ λέγει αὐτοῖς· Λάβετε, πίετε, καὶ τ. λ. δρᾶς τὴν ἐπαγγελλαν τὸ ποτήριον τῆς καινῆς διαθήκης οὐδαν· δρᾶς τὰς κολάσεις ποτήριον οἶνου ἀκράτου. I suppose my judicious reader will easily discern that the place is corrupted; for, as it stands, it makes 'unmixed wine' to denote a 'punishment' in Jeremiah, a 'promise' in the Eucharist. Origen probably wrote εὐκράτῳ εὑφράνει, and γέγραπται ὅτι ἐκέρασεν, "It was written" in some memorials long since lost, that Christ used 'Wine well-mixed.'

^z See Pfaffius, ubi supra, p. 176.

CHAP. III. was the universal usage of the primitive Apostolical Church, is, I think, agreed by all men of learning; and I have sufficiently proved upon another occasion^a. It must be owned, that this is not anywhere in the Western Church observed, as it was in the purest ages. Among the Papists, the Priests do generally provide the elements, at least so it was here in England before the Reformation. By the First Liturgy of Edward VI. every house in the parish was by turns to offer the value of the Holy Loaf, but still the Priest was to furnish it, though at the parishioners' cost. Now it is purchased by the Church-wardens out of the common stock, as the morning and evening sacrifices of the Jews were out of the public treasury levied on the people; and this comes nearest to the primitive practice. Yet it must be owned that this practice is liable to objection, because it cannot in strictness be said to be a free-will-offering, as I think the Eucharistical Bread and Wine ought to be; and if it were free, yet since the common stock of every parish is raised out of the estates of vicious and profligate men, of heretics and schismatics, nay, as it may happen, of Jews and Atheists, I cannot but wish that, in this respect, there were some better provision. It is certain, the primitive Church would never have accepted the offerings of such men, if they had been never so free and voluntary, especially as a fund for purchasing of the Bread and Wine. The offerings of those laymen who lived in malice, though they were in all other respects sound Christians, were not accepted; none but they who led unblemished lives were allowed to communicate, and none but communicants were permitted to make an Oblation at the Altar. It is evident that the primitive Christians "brought their gifts" of Bread and Wine "to the Altar," in compliance with our Saviour's precept in His Sermon on the Mount; and therefore thought themselves obliged to do it with such a disposition of mind as He there requires, that is, with such charity and integrity that no "brother might have aught against them," any wrong or injury to charge them withal; much more was it thought necessary, that the whole Church should have no reason to resent the misbehaviour of those who came to make their offerings. It ought in reason to be owned, that it is very

^a See Part I. p. [434,] &c.

desirable, that these three Rites were now strictly observed in the Christian Church, and especially this last ; yet I dare not assert, that any or all of them are necessary to such a degree, as that the Eucharist being celebrated without them does thereby become unacceptable to God or unprofitable to men. The holy kiss could be intended for no other end, but to be an open declaration of the mutual charity of the communicants ; and if we have this grace and exercise it upon all just occasions, this is a better proof of our brotherly love than all the outward professions of it, that men can make. The mingling water with the Wine is no more than complying with the primitive Church in an outward circumstance. It is probable indeed, that the primitive Church copied this practice from the Apostles, and even from Christ Jesus Himself, and it would therefore be a most unjustifiable practice to depart from any Church on account of using water with the Wine ; but since no Christians of tolerable judgment do think it blameable to administer or receive the Sacrament at another time, in another posture, in a different place, in other sort of bread, than what were used by Christ and His Apostles at the first Institution ; therefore no man, I think, ought to esteem it sinful to use unmixed Wine, though there is good reason to believe that our Saviour and His Apostles tempered their Wine with water. It is true, the water was thought by the ancients to signify the people, as the Wine did the Blood of Christ ; but then the many grains of wheat ground and kneaded into one loaf, and the several grapes whose juice was pressed into one vessel, were likewise thought to denote the same thing ; and there can be no necessity for having the Church doubly represented in the Sacrament. And as to the people's offering the Bread and Wine, which were to be consecrated into the Body and Blood of Christ, this was indeed absolutely necessary, while there was no other provision made for furnishing God's Altar ; but it cannot be deemed so necessary now, when all Churches have, by one means or other, a stated supply of Bread and Wine for this purpose ; though it must be confessed, that the ancient method is most proper and agreeable to the nature of the Ordinance. But our Saviour does not absolutely require men to bring their gifts to the Altar, but only gra-

C H A P. ciously presumes, they will do it, whenever they see occasion for it. “If thou bringest thy gift to the Altar,” are His words; this implies, that whatever is done of this sort must proceed from the free-will of the people.

**Necessary
rites.**

But then there are a third sort of rites and modes so necessary, that, when they are omitted, the Eucharist must in justice be deemed defective and imperfect, and we can have no just foundation to believe that it is done according to the will and intention of Christ Jesus. These rites or modes are as follow,

**Placing
Bread and
Wine on the
Altar, *Sur-
sum corda,
Trisagium,
&c.***

(1.) The first necessary Rite of the Eucharist is, that the Priest place Bread and Wine on the Lord’s Table. The Eucharist cannot be without Bread and Wine; and I conceive it to be necessary, that It be presented to God by the Priest, not only from the general consent of the Church in all ages, which has ever directed the Priest to perform this office, as our Church does at this day; but from the general laws of Sacrifice, one of which always was, that the priest should lay on the altar all that was offered on it. All the old Liturgies do likewise agree in this, that as soon as the Bread and Wine have been reverently placed on the Altar, the Priest calls on the people to “lift up their hearts to God and to give thanks;” and, the people having declared their compliance with the Priest in these particulars, there immediately followed a large recital and acknowledgment of God’s dominion, providence, goodness, and special mercies to His Church, especially in redeeming mankind by Christ Jesus; in token of our homage and gratitude for which mercies, the Bread and Wine were presented at the Altar. This acknowledgment always began with those words which are still in our Liturgy, viz., “It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, Holy Father,” &c. It were to be wished, that there had been a particular rehearsal of God’s most signal favours and providences to His Church here inserted in our Liturgy, as in those of old; instead whereof only Christ’s Birth, Resurrection, &c., are expressly mentioned at their proper Festivals; however, this is closed by our Church, as it was in the most primitive times, with that Angelical hymn, “Holy, Holy, Holy,” &c. There is greater reason than

that of universal practice, to prove this recital and acknowledgment of God's dominion, power, and goodness to be necessary; I mean, that Christ, having just before eaten the Passover, did, in performing that ordinance, bless God for having created Bread and the fruit of the vine; for all Jewish Rabbies and Christian Divines agree in this, that the master of the feast always did this. And there is the same reason for doing this in the Eucharist; and the Christian Church has therefore always followed this pattern, and done it in a more solemn ample manner than was used by the Jews of old. There was no occasion for our Saviour to do this over again, when He took some of the Bread and Wine that remained after the Passover-feast was concluded, to represent His own Body and Blood, because He had done it but just before; there was no occasion for Christ to place Bread and Wine on the Table, because there was Bread and Wine sufficient still remaining over and above, after the Passover was ended. In all the later Liturgies there is some form of words used by the Priest at his presenting the Bread and Wine on the Altar, as there is now in ours, begging of God to "accept the Oblation;" but there is no such form in the most ancient of all.

I shall only further observe, that though it be not now expected, that communicants should offer Bread and Wine; yet it now is and ever was the duty of all that come to the Altar, not to appear empty before God. Christ has declared, that when any one approaches the Altar, he should "bring his gift with him." He has not indeed so absolutely enjoined it, as that he who brings nothing is therefore to be driven from the Lord's Table; for all offerings under the Gospel are to be free: but men must take heed, that they do not use this freedom as a cloak for covetousness or uncharitableness. If the Priest be otherwise provided of a proper maintenance, yet the poor are not to be neglected.

(2.) Rehearsing the Words of Institution is the second necessary Rite. This is so ancient, as that no man knows the beginning of it; so universal, that I suppose there is no Church or pretended Church in the world, but what ever did and still does use it: there is no reason to doubt but that it ever was used and everywhere. I know Mr. Hales and others

Rehearsing
the Words
of Institu-
tion.

C H A P. III. have argued against the necessity of using these words; but, certainly, no modest Christian will argue against a practice so venerable as to its antiquity, established by so great an authority as that of all Churches of the past and present age. These Words are indeed the commission, by which the Priest acts, and by virtue whereof the Bread and Cup are consigned to be representatives of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Breaking Bread, and pouring out Wine.
Acts ii. 42; xx. 7.
1 Cor. x. 16.

(3.) The breaking of the Bread and pouring out of the Wine are necessary rites; for the whole solemnity is sometimes distinguished by the title of "breaking Bread;" and "the Bread which we break" is the distinguishing character of the Sacramental Body of Christ in the Eucharist. And it is certain, that our Saviour brake the Bread with His own hands, and then distributed it to the disciples; and no man that is not in love with contention will dispute, whether it be not necessary for every Minister, in celebrating this Sacrament, to do what our Saviour did in performing this solemnity; and I suppose the pouring out of the Wine is necessary in the same degree that the breaking of the Bread is so.

The offering of the symbols in commemoration of Christ's Death.

(4.) The Priest's offering of the Bread and Cup, after the Words of Institution, in commemoration of Christ's Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, is what seems to be a necessary rite. I cannot but express my wonder, that some men of considerable reputation in the learned world should imagine, that Christ, when He instituted the Eucharist, did only use some Jewish forms of benediction, such as every master of a family pronounced at a common entertainment. It is certain, that our Saviour, in causing His disciples to eat and drink after the Passover as He did, acted directly contrary to the practice of the Jews, who thought it unlawful to taste either meat or drink, after they had once concluded their solemn supper on the lamb; and the Jews at this day observe the same rule of abstinence, after they have eaten their unleavened bread, as the learned Pfaffius^b, after Buxtorf, has shewed from the writings of the Rabbies. Now it is certain, our Saviour took the Cup "after supper;" and, as many learned men have observed, the words of St. Matthew and St. Mark, when they begin to relate the Institution, ought to

Luke xxii. 20; 1 Cor. xi. 25.

^b See Pfaff. *De Oblatione*, p. 166, &c.

be rendered^c, "when they had eaten," that is, after they had ended the Paschal supper. Our Saviour had already performed the office of a master at the Paschal feast, in blessing both the Bread and Cup after the manner of the Jews, and now He blesses the Bread and Cup, as the pledges of the New Covenant; and to imagine, that He did and said nothing upon this occasion, but what a grave Jew would have said or done at a common meal or banquet, or what He had done just before at the Passover-feast, is to sink the Eucharist into as low a degree of contempt as the very enemies of Christianity can desire. He does Himself assure us, that "the Bread was His Body given," or offered to God, "that the Cup was His Blood shed for the remission of sins." We are not therefore to doubt but that He did then under the symbol of Bread offer His Body, under the symbol of Wine pour out His Blood. Whether He did this in words audibly pronounced, I do not undertake to determine; it is sufficient, if He did it by the words of His mind only, and by the Eternal Spirit; and I have abundantly shewed, that the primitive Church was taught by the Apostles to do the same that Christ had done, that is, to give or offer the Bread and Wine to God, in memory of what He now did; and whether Christ did openly speak the words of Oblation or not, it is certain that the Bishops and Priests of the primitive Church were always required to perform this solemn part of their office in such a manner, that they might be heard by the people; and if the Eucharist be a Sacrifice, then it seems to me, that the offering it to God must be one part of the blessing to be passed upon it.

(5.) The Invocation of the Holy Ghost on the symbols was certainly thought necessary by the primitive Church; and if this were necessary in the primitive ages, it cannot be unnecessary now. I have fully proved^d, that this was the universal sentiment of all for some hundred years after Christ, and have shewed what foundation this doctrine has in Scripture^e; and I have already in this chapter observed, that the Eucharist was designed to be One, as sanctified by the One Spirit.

^c Matt. xxvi. 26; Mark xiv. 22.
ἔσθιόντων here is the second indefinite.
See the Critics *in loc.*

^d See Part I. p. [273.]

^e See Part I. p. [286.]

C H A P. I think the generality of Protestants are agreed, that the
 III. — Consecration is performed chiefly by prayer. In this the
 Lutherans and Calvinists seem united; and they do likewise generally esteem the rehearsal of the Words of Institution to be necessary to this purpose. The Lutherans do also speak very favourably of the Invocation of the Holy Spirit^f, though it does not appear that they use it. The Church of Rome^g first laid aside this Invocation at the latter end of the sixth century, but it was still retained in the Gallican Liturgy, which was also used in the English Church till toward the middle of the eighth century; and from that time forward the Roman Liturgy prevailed in the whole Western Church, and the Holy Ghost was no longer invoked at the consecration of the Eucharist. The Greek and Eastern Churches do constantly and universally practise it to this day. Our first Reformers here in England restored this most pious and Apostolical Prayer (though they placed it before the Words of Institution, contrary to the ancient method); but in the review of our Liturgy, two or three years after, it was wholly omitted. It is clear, that the Church of Rome was the mother of this corruption; and I wish I could say that the Reformation had reduced our Liturgy to the primitive state in this particular. St. Ignatius^h wishes to the Churches of the Magnesians, “an union of the Flesh and Spirit of Christ Jesus in the Eucharist;” and to this end charges them, “when they meet together, to have the One Prayerⁱ. ” This the holy Martyr thought a most important blessing; and certainly it becomes and highly concerns all the Bishops and Pastors in Christendom not only to express the same wish, but most earnestly to labour for the accomplishing of it.

Intercess-
sion for all
Christians.

(6.) The intercessions for the Church and for all orders and degrees of men in it, is another necessary part of the Eucharistic Office; for this is but an express declaration of that charity, which is absolutely necessary for all that desire to receive the Sacrament to the benefit of their own souls. To pray for all Christians in and by the Eucharist, is only to

^f See Pfaff. *De consecratione*, p. 485,
 &c. *

^g It seems evident, that the Holy Ghost was invocated in the Gelasian Liturgy, see Part I. p. [276;] but it

was omitted in the Sacramentary of Gregory the First, who flourished A.D. 590.

^h See Part I. p. [281.]
ⁱ Ad Magnes., c. 7.

speak our intention in offering the Sacrifice ; and this is what CHAP.
has always been done, not only by Christians, but by Jews — III.
and heathen in all the oblations which they made. And by
all Churches' and every private Christian's praying for all
other Churches and for every member of them, the Unity of
the whole Church and of the Eucharist was of old preserved
entire : not only a universal charity was thereby exercised,
but the Sacrifice was declared to be offered in behalf of the
same persons, in every single congregation of Christians
throughout the world. I believe it to be very evident in
itself, that we have the example of Christ for doing this :
for I have shewed^k, that the long prayer contained in the
seventeenth chapter of St. John was put up to God by our
Saviour, upon His instituting the Eucharist ; and there He
intercedes with His Father in the first six verses for His own
glorification, that is, His Resurrection, Ascension, sending the
Holy Ghost, and the success of His Gospel ; in the fourteen
next verses, He most earnestly addresses Himself to God in
behalf of the Apostles ; and, in the following words, for “ all
that should believe in His Name,” that is, for all Christians
of all ages to the world’s end. There is little doubt but the
Apostles followed the example of their Master in this as well
as other respects ; and the primitive Church learned this
practice from them. It must be owned, that we cannot
certainly say at what precise point of time our Saviour used
this prayer ; but the best or rather the only guide in this
particular is the Use of the primitive Church ; and it is evi-
dent, that the most ancient Liturgies now in being direct
these intercessions to be made after the Consecration is
ended, and before the distribution begins, though the latter
Liturgies have these intercessions dispersed in the several
parts of them. And therefore no more need be said to shew,
how we may render our Eucharist one and the same with
that of the Christian Church in the purest ages, and, by con-
sequence, with that of Christ Himself.

It is impossible, at this great distance of time, to determine,
whether the Apostles did in all Churches use exactly the same
form of words, or whether every one of them used his own
discretion in drawing a Liturgy for the use of himself and

^k Introduction.

CHAP.
III.

the Churches settled by him. I find the most learned and judicious writers on this subject are rather inclined to think, that their harmony in this particular did not consist in using the same words and phrases, but that every Apostle chose his own way of expression ; but I see no shadow of reason to believe, that any of them or of the primitive Bishops did not always keep strictly close to their own forms, and always use the same words. I look on extempore Prayer to be a mere modern invention, unheard-of in the Church until now of very late. And though I presume not to assert, that every Bishop thought himself obliged precisely to confine himself to follow his predecessor in every single expression ; yet I am persuaded, that the variations they used consisted rather in words than sense ; and that they all tied themselves to the same method in performing this most solemn Ordinance ; and this was that which they called the ‘Order’ or ‘Method’ of their Liturgy.

Lord's
Prayer not
necessary
to Consecra-
tion.

Some might have expected, that I should speak of the Lord’s Prayer as necessary to the Consecration of the Eucharist, because several of the Fathers about four hundred years after Christ do mention it as constantly used in the Consecration-Service ; and I cannot but readily confess, that it may very properly be used on that or any other weighty occasion ; nay, I dare not say that the ancients were mistaken, when by the ‘super-substantial Bread’ they understood the Eucharist. Yet I can by no means believe that the use of it is necessary to Consecration ; not only because it is not inserted into the Consecration-Service of the most ancient Liturgy now in the world, nor mentioned by the Fathers of the three first centuries, as a part of the Communion Office ; but because it is very evident that our Saviour did first and chiefly design it for a private prayer to be used in the closet. And it is one thing for a private Christian or for a congregation of Christians to beg of God, that they may never want the Eucharist, or food necessary both for their bodies and souls ; and it is another thing to invoke the Divine Spirit, in order to render the present Bread and Wine the Sacramental Body and Blood of Christ. Gregory^m Bishop of Rome, in the sixth or seventh century, did imagine

^l Gr. Ἀκολουθία. Lat. Consequentia.^m See Part I. p. [331.]

that the Apostles consecrated the elements with this prayer, C H A P.
III.
and so have several others since him ; but this seems to have
been a very late and ill-grounded tradition.

I have taken no notice of the Creed, as it is a part of the Nor the
Creed, Con-
fession, and
Absolution.
Communion-Service. I deny not but the use of it in the Eucharist is very seasonable and edifying ; but there is no reason to believe, that the primitive Church had the Creed in their Communion-Service. The first authority for it is, I think, in the third Council of Toledo, above five hundred years after Christ. It was not received into the Roman Church till above five hundred years after this, in the eleventh century. Our very joining in the administration or participation of the Eucharist does imply our profession of the Christian Faith ; and though it is proper to explain ourselves in this particular, yet the primitive Church did not think it necessary. The Confession of sins and Absolution is very far from being improper ; but yet, if I mistake not, they are new, and peculiar to our Communion-Service. If the Absolution were in the downright positive way, “I absolve you,” it would be more new still. The ancient Church, I conceive, gave no direct absolution in words ; admission to the Eucharist was believed to imply a full and perfect remission to all sincere communicants.

I do not mention the portions of Scripture, the Psalms, Nor the
Psalms and
Hymns.
Hymns, and other such like devotions before the Consecration, or after it, or during the time of administration, as necessary to this ordinance, though very proper and commendable. The Lutheransⁿ seem to attribute a sanctifying power to these Hymns or Lauds ; but I am not sensible that they have any evidence either in Scripture or antiquity for this opinion. St. Matthew, according to our English Translation, says of our Saviour and His Apostles, that “they sung an hymn.” Our Divines commonly suppose that they sung six of the Psalms, beginning at the 113th, ending with the 118th ; the only foundation for this is, that the Jews used to do this at the Passover : if, therefore, the Hymn consisted

ⁿ Pfaff. De consecr., p. 486. In Ecclesiâ Roterodamensi Augustanæ Confessioni addictâ ante aliquot annos receptum fuit, ut, primo quidem Vino Verbis Institutionis consecratâ, inse-

quens Psalmo exi. consecraretur. He cites Chrysostom to the same purpose, p. 409, but I do not see that Chrysostom’s words carry any proof with them.

C H A P. of those Psalms, it is certain that they sang it rather in regard to the Passover than the Eucharist. The Greek word, used here by St. Matthew^o, is of a very wide and uncertain signification, and does not necessarily imply singing. Grotius believes that the Evangelist's meaning was, that the Apostles joined with our Saviour in that most solemn and devout address, which He made to God the Father, contained in the seventeenth chapter of St. John's Gospel: and this I think as probable as any other of the conjectures, which men of learning have made on this obscure passage; but nothing can with any certainty be concluded from it.

**Distribu-
tion, a ne-
cessary rite.** Another necessary Rite of the Eucharist is that of distributing the symbols or the Sacramental Body and Blood of Christ. Nobody will expect that I should spend many words to prove, that the Eucharist was intended by Christ to be eaten and drunk; it is what I have in the foregoing Part of this work frequently insisted on; it is what is necessarily imported in the very notion of the Eucharist; for it is not only a Sacrifice, but a feast. The Church of Rome, in permitting the Oblation without the Communion, has notoriously violated the Institution of Christ and the Unity of the Eucharist. The private Masses, used in that Church, are without any example of the best and most primitive times. This is an Eucharist peculiar to the Papists; not the 'One Eucharist' which Christ Jesus founded.

(8.) The last necessary Rite is the Priest's benediction: for I have elsewhere fully shewed that all sacrifices of God's people ought to be concluded in this manner, for that all Divine blessings are procured chiefly by means of Sacrifice. Accordingly, in the most ancient Liturgy now in being^p, there is a very large and solemn form of blessing to be pronounced by the Bishop or Priest: and this blessing, given at the close of the Communion-Service, I suppose to be that "greater benediction," mentioned once and again in the Constitutions; the "lesser" being that which was given in private, or on lesser occasions. Tertullian^q expresses the horror of excommunica-

^o Vid. Stephani Thesaurum Gr. Ling. [sub voce *"Τυνέω."*]

^p Ap. Const., lib. viii. c. 15.

^q De Pudicitâ, c. 14. Maledici enim

eam sequebatur, quæ diabolo projiciebatur, ut sacramento benedictionis ex-auctoraretur.

tion by the phrase of “being cashiered from the Sacrament of Blessing,” the consequence whereof he therefore thought a curse; (for he speaks of a final, irrevocable excommunication.) In truth, the distributing of the Eucharist implies a blessing to all worthy communicants, whether it be expressed in words at length, or not; but since it appears, that it has always been the practice of the Church to conclude the Eucharist by pronouncing a solemn form of benediction, I conceive it would be very unwarrantable in any Church to omit it. Eusebius^r tells us that “ Melchisedec blessed Abraham in bread and wine;” yet we are at the same time assured, that he did also in words explain the meaning of this implicit benediction; for he said, “ Blessed be Abraham of the Most High God,” &c. I proceed,

5thly, to consider the Unity of the Eucharist in relation to them who are the communicants. These are, first and principally, the Priests; and then, in the second place, the people.

(1.) The Eucharist is One, as offered by Priests, who are One by their Commission. It is very evident, that it was not only our Saviour’s intention but His most passionate desire, that, as all His Apostles received their Commission from Him, so they might execute it with such a harmony and consent of mind, that there might not be the least jarring between them: for thus He prays in their behalf, “ Keep through Thine own Name those whom Thou hast given Me, that they may be One, as We are.” And the foundation of our Saviour’s wishes and expectations for so perfect an union between His Apostles was this, as is expressed by Himself, “ I have given them the words which Thou gavest Me,” that is, He had committed to them the same treasure of Divine Truth, which the Father had before committed to Him; and therefore He had reason to hope and pray, that as He was perfectly One with the Father, so they would endeavour by all possible means to be One with Him and with each other, by teaching and practising those holy truths and ordinances in the same manner that they had seen and heard Him do. After His Resurrection, He does with great solemnity tell them, “ As My Father sent Me, even so send I you.” From which

How the
Priests are,
or ought to
be, One.

^{John xvii.}
^{11.}

^{John xvii.}
^{8.}

^{John xx.}
^{21.}

^r h. p. 16. Ap.

CHAP. III. words it is evident, that the Commission of all the Apostles was one and the same; that it was such a commission as Christ Himself in His Human Nature had received from His Father. And even they, who were not of the same order with the Apostles but only inferior Presbyters under them, yet, by deriving their authority from the same fountain-head, and exercising it in conformity to the instructions which they received from them, they still kept the unity of the Spirit in
 1 Cor. iii. 8. the bond of peace; therefore "He that planted the Gospel" among the Corinthians, that is, St. Paul, and Apollos "that watered it," are both said to be "One;" and the same Apostle
 2 Cor. xii. 18. says of himself and Titus, at another place, "Walked we not in the same Spirit, walked we not in the same steps?" Apollos was but a Priest, Titus was scarce yet ordained Bishop, when St. Paul thus speaks of their Union with him. It was upon this account, that Ignatius^s, Cyprian^t, and others, represent the whole College of Bishops throughout the whole world as one person, sitting in one Chair, attending one Altar: and *that*, therefore, is the "One Eucharist," which is celebrated by this One Priesthood; and St. Clement of Rome^u allows nothing to be offered without the inspection of the High-Priest: and therefore, when a new Altar is erected, a new Bishop ordained in opposition to the former, then there is just occasion to ask that question, as St. Paul did, "Is Christ divided?" When two several Pastors assume to themselves the privilege of offering and consecrating the Sacrament, not only in two distinct places, but in contradiction to each other, and by two several inconsistent claims, then it is evident, that one of them acts by no Commission; for if the true Eucharist can be had in two opposite assemblies, then Christ's Flesh ceases to be One. It is altogether as absurd to suppose that two separate and contrary authorities can give or consecrate the Eucharist, as it is to affirm that the same Prince can have two Chancellors and Broad-Seals in the same principality, two subordinate magistrates in the same city or district, acting against each other. And

^s Ad Philad. [c. iv.] ἐν θυσιαστήριον,
 .ώς εἰς Ἐπίσκοπος.

^t Deus unus est, et Christus unus, et
 una Ecclesia, et Cathedra una—aliud
 altare constitui aut sacerdotium novum

fieri præter unum Altare et unum Sa-
 cerdotium non potest.—Cypr. Ep. 40.

[p. 53. Ed. Bened.]

^u b. p. i. Ap. l. 19.

if Christ designed His Church to be but One, and yet has CHAP.
commissioned two several sets of officers to act in His Name, III.
He has evidently defeated His own design. Certainly, Christ's
Church was by Him intended to be more perfectly One than
any temporal kingdom ever was; and especially, that His
officers should be One, even as He and His Father are One.
But now if two distinct and directly opposite bodies of men
assume to themselves His authority, and under this pretence
divide His flock; in this case, he who shall affirm that both
of these bodies of men are commissioned by our Saviour, and
that it is safe and lawful to communicate with both, must
suppose that Christ's Church was no more intended to be
One, than two several neighbouring nations that are in per-
petual war with each other. But if never so great a number
of men claim this privilege of celebrating and consecrating
the Eucharist within the same city or country, and all of
them act in concurrence with each other and in subordina-
tion to One Bishop, and use the same necessary rites or modes,
then the Eucharist is still One. If Cornelius's forty-six Priests,
in the third century, did administer and consecrate the Sa-
crament every Lord's-day in as many several congregations
within the city of Rome or in the neighbouring country;
yet still it was but the same Eucharist that Bishop Cornelius
himself celebrated in his own Church; for they all acted by
the same Commission and walked by the same Spirit, as St.
Paul, Apollos, and Titus, are said to have done. But Novatian,
setting himself up in opposition to Cornelius, and acting by
a contrary spirit, was universally condemned as an intruder,
usurper, invader; his altar and sacrifice were deemed mere
profanations, his bread and wine to be no true Eucharist but
a mere counterfeit and a scandalous forgery; as any man may
see by what Cyprian says on this occasion^x.

A world of time and pains have been misspent, not only by Presby-
terians are
schismatics,
though
Priests had
power to
ordain.
our Dissenters but by some that go to Church, to prove that
Presbyters have power to ordain; it is certain, that no one has
yet been able to give one single instance of the Presbyters'
being allowed to exercise this power in the primitive Church.
Even the 'Impartial Hand' has upon this head nothing

* c. d. p. 11. Ap. n, o. p. 15. Ap.

^y See a book entitled, "An Enquiry

into the Constitution, &c., of the Primitive Church that flourished within the

CHAP. III. but fallacy to put upon the reader. But let it be granted, that Presbyters have a secret power of ordination reserved to be used upon very extraordinary occasions ; yet even this will not justify our Dissenters in their schism, except they could prove too, that Bishops have no power to ordain ; for it is certain, that the Bishops with their Clergy had long been in possession of all the Churches in England before any of their adversaries made any pretence of claim against them, and were therefore the true and sole Pastors of the Church. When, therefore, the Puritans or Presbyterians set themselves up for guides and ‘Ruling Elders’ in direct opposition to these Bishops and their Clergy, and endeavoured to gather Churches out of their Churches, then was the Unity of the Spirit broken, many members were torn off from the Body : a new claim of administering the One Eucharist was made in opposition to the Bishops and their Clergy, who had ever before been in quiet possession of this privilege. Some of both sides believed, that the Sacraments of Christ were truly administered by both parties, though acting by a contrary spirit ; and they, who did this last, were the greatest schis-

first 300 Years after Christ, &c. By an Impartial Hand.’ The book was effectually answered, before it was written, by Dr. Maurice’s Treatises of Diocesan Episcopacy against Clarkson. This writer would prove the Presbyterians’ power of Ordination from the known words of Firmilian, who says, “*Majores natu ordinandi possident potestatem;*” and proves that ‘*Majores natu*’ signifies ‘Presbyters,’ because ‘Seniores’ has this sense in Tertullian’s Apology. (See p. 61. Part i. of the book before mentioned.) Now it is certain that ‘Senes’ and ‘Seniores’ was the most honourable title given by the Africans to their Bishops ; see Can.100 [or 104,] and 127 [or 128] of the African Code, and the Acts of the African Synods : and this ‘Impartial Hand,’ when it had no turn to serve, translates ‘Seniores’ ‘Bishops,’ and understands by it the chief Pastors of the Church, as distinguished from the Presbyters ; and this too in a passage from the same Firmilian. The Latin words are, “*Ut per singulos annos Seniores et Præpositi in unum conveniamus.*” From these words he infers, that “Bishops and Presbyters met together every year (in Councils),” *ubi supra*, p 148,

though in truth it is most probable, that by “*Seniores*” is meant the ‘Primates,’ by “*Præpositi*” the other ‘Bishops.’ This writer proves, that Tertullian by “*Seniores*” must mean ‘Presbyters,’ because he speaks here of the discipline exercised in one particular Church, where there was but one Bishop. Now, on the other side, it is certain to a demonstration, that Tertullian speaks of the discipline of the whole Christian Church, though he had the Churches of Africa more particularly in his eye. The writer had even as well have said, that Tertullian drew his Apology for one particular Church only ; but then the fallacy would have been more apparent. He pretends to produce no example but that of Timothy’s being ordained “by the hands of the Presbytery,” as we translate 1 Tim. iv. 14, and yet he himself argues upon this supposition, that Bishops were often called ‘Presbyters’ by the Holy Writers, and therefore could not be insensible that ‘Presbytery’ may signify a ‘synod of Bishops ;’ and he cannot but very well know how Calvin understood this text, and how many other answers have been made to this cavil.

matics of all, because they not only favoured the schism, but did, in effect, declare that they thought schism to be no sin : — CHAP.
III.
and, certainly, they are to the greatest degree guilty of breaking a Divine commandment, who not only transgress it, but deny it to be a commandment, and so make the laws of God of none effect. When Novatian assumed to himself the title of Bishop of Rome, and pretended to act as such, in opposition to Cornelius who had been regularly advanced to that see, he and all who adhered to him were justly branded as schismatics, though he was really ordained by three Bishops of the Catholic Church ; much more were they guilty of the same crime here in England, who not only usurped the authority of their lawful Pastors, but did it without any pretence of being ordained Bishops, as Novatian was.

Both Priests and people must be One, in order to render the Eucharist truly One. For I have elsewhere shewed², that the people are to join with the Priest in the offering of the Eucharist and in all devotions at the Altar. And so long as the whole body of the people do conform themselves and perform their parts in the public Liturgy of the Church, so long Christ's Body is One and the Eucharist One. But there are several cases that too frequently happen, by which this Union is broken ; as,

§ 1. When the people permit themselves to be seduced by false teachers into heretical opinions, contrary to that Faith which was once delivered to the Saints, and therefore can no longer join in the public profession of the belief of the Catholic doctrine of the Church, and upon that account separate themselves from her assemblies, or are cut off from the Body by just censures. Now, if such men as these are so numerous, and full of zeal in their errors, as to form themselves into distinct congregations under their new guides, and to maintain a separate worship, and to distinguish themselves by new creeds ; then it is evident the Communion of the Church is broken, the Faith is no longer One in that sense which Christ intended, their Eucharist is not the One Eucharist of the Christian Church.

§ 2. And even they, whose faith is pure, may yet violate the Unity of the Church and Eucharist by associating them- Nor schis-matics.

² Part I. p. [438,] &c.

CHAP. III. selves to schismatical pastors or pretended pastors, or by making head against their own Bishops and Priests, and heaping up to themselves new teachers without a competent authority: for the Commission of Pastors is but One, and when any man or body of men pretend to a new commission, not derived to them in the ordinary way of succession, then it is certain, the very bond of peace is broken, and the Eucharist of two opposite bodies cannot be One. The Holy Spirit cannot so far countenance division, as by Its gracious Presence to give life and power to the Bread and Wine of schismatical assemblies.

The Eucha-
rist of such
is null.

There are other crimes beside heresy and schism, which do make men unfit for the Eucharist, while they remain under them; so that, though they do receive the true Christian Eucharist, yet they do it to their own damnation: but so long as both the Priest and people keep the Unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, so long the Eucharist is One and True, though they render it unprofitable to themselves by their wilful sins and impenitence, and have a sad account to give of themselves for this presumption. But when the very assemblies, in which the Bread is broken, are only a combination in schism and heresy, when their very devotions proceed from strife and debate and a spirit of contradiction, and are performed in defiance to peace and order and the Unity of Christ's Body, then it is no longer a Christian assembly or a Church, but a riot and conspiracy. They may have a resemblance or imitation of the Eucharist, as rebels may counterfeit the Broad Seal; but they cannot have the thing itself. Many well-meaning people may not discover the imposture, and God is a most gracious Prince, and our High-Priest is merciful, and can have compassion on the ignorant and on them that are out of the way; yet woe be to them by whom the offence cometh; I mean, to them that are leaders and contrivers of such divisions. Such men are never wanting to set a fair gloss on their proceedings, and do commonly by some artful frauds persuade their followers, that their administrations are with greater power and purity than those of the Church. So Marcus, an ancient heretic mentioned by Irenaeus^a, had a secret art, by which he made

the Wine in his mock-Eucharist appear to be of a purple or red colour, which his deluded followers believed to proceed from a Divine power. Satan, in all ages, takes care that his agents may be thought angels of light ; but all, that will carefully use their own judgments, may without any great difficulty discern the One True Church and Eucharist from false shows and appearances. This leads me

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6. To speak of the unity of the place, in which the True Eucharist is celebrated. It is true, the place for offering this Sacrifice is not One in the plain literal sense, but in mystery only ; just as the Bread is One. The sacrifices of the Jews, from the time of David, were confined to one place, in the strict and most obvious sense. The woman of Samaria ob- John iv. 20. serves that, according to the judgment of all the Jews, “ Jerusalem was the place where men ought to worship ;” and, indeed, “ He, who by Moses’ Law offered a burnt-offering or Lev. xvii. 9. sacrifice, and brought it not unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, was to be cut off from among his people.” But the Christian Religion was intended for a universal religion ; and, under the Gospel, “ the pure offering ” is to be Mal. i. 11. “ offered in every place.” Our Saviour has decreed, that men shall no longer worship at Jerusalem or mount Geri- John iv. 21. zim only ; yet all places, in which the Pure Offering is presented to God, are mystically One. There can be no doubt but that, in great cities, the Christians of the first ages had several places for holding their public assemblies. It is certain that, soon after our Saviour’s Ascension, three Acts ii. 41. thousand were converted at Jerusalem by one sermon preached by St. Peter ; and, in a short time after this, five thousand more. Now let us suppose that one half of Acts iv. 4. these eight thousand were such as came thither to worship at Jerusalem, and that the other four thousand only were inhabitants of that city ; yet, it is utterly incredible, that such a number could have a place of assembly sufficient to receive them all at once ; and we are to consider that this Church was in a growing state ; for, a while after, we read of “ great numbers added to the Lord, multitudes both of Acts v. 14. men and women.” It is reasonable to believe, that in twenty or thirty years’ time their number must still be trebled or at least doubled ; and the same may be said of all the great

In what
sense the
place for
the Eucha-
rist is One.

CHAP. III. cities, in which Christianity was preached. And, before Constantine's time, there could not probably be fewer than twenty thousand Christian communicants in every one of the most noted cities, such as Rome, Alexandria, Antioch, and Carthage. Tertullian tells us, that the Christians were a tenth part of Carthage in his time; for he asks Scapula the persecuting governor, whether he intended to decimate that city, that is, kill every tenth man, for being a Christian. Now let us suppose that the whole number of inhabitants was but two hundred thousand, yet, if the Christians were a tenth part, they could not be less than twenty thousand. There is just reason to believe that there was more than double the number of inhabitants; and if so, then the number of Christians must be doubled too. But let us make some allowance for the warmth of Tertullian's temper; and, granting that there were but ten thousand grown communicants, yet, how can it seem credible that, during the times of persecution, it was possible for the Christians to have a Church large enough for ten thousand men and women at once to meet in? And, if this could be done, yet where is there a voice strong enough to reach the ears of such an audience? And if there were ten thousand at Carthage, there must probably be much greater numbers at Rome and Alexandria, to mention no other cities at present. And what possible occasion could they have at Rome for forty-six Presbyters, upon supposition that they had but one congregation? And this was above fifty years before Constantine's conversion; and, during this tract of time, there can be no doubt but that the number of Christians was much enlarged. Mr. Bingham^b has observed from Optatus, that there were above forty Churches at Rome in the time of Dioclesian's persecution. And we are certain, that, about the year 250, Dionysius of Alexandria^c mentions several places of assembly in the suburbs of this city; and he speaks likewise of the Cemeteries or places where the Martyrs died or lay buried, and where it is well known the Christians used to hold their assemblies. Yet, during all this time, Cyprian and

^b See Mr. Bingham's *Antiquities*, book ix. chap. v. sect. 1. [vol. iii. p. 127. Ed. Lond. 1840.] ^c Apud Euseb. Hist. Eccles., lib. vii. cap. ii.

Ignatius allow but One Altar in one city or diocese. It is not worth disputing, whether there was no other Altar but that in the Bishop's Church; or whether every lesser assembly had an Altar fixed in it, and the Eucharist celebrated upon it; for whether the one or the other practice prevailed, it is certain the Altar was One, the Eucharist One. Christ's Body was more divided by the Eucharist's being consecrated in the several lesser assemblies by Presbyters, acting under the same Bishop, and using the same Liturgy that he did, than if it had at first been consecrated at the Bishop's Altar, and portions from thence sent to the other congregations; which some suppose to have been the real practice. St. Clement of Rome^d admonishes the Christians at Corinth, that "Sacrifices are not offered everywhere but at Jerusalem only, nor at every place there neither, but before the sanctuary and at the altar;" from whence it seems plain, that this holy man thought the place for the Christian Sacrifice to be One in some sense, though not in the literal. And Cyril of Alexandria^e explains it very well, when he tells us, "It is not lawful to celebrate the Christian mystery in every place, at discretion; for the only agreeable and proper place is, in truth, the Holy City, that is, the Church, in which there is a lawful Priest, where sacred offices are performed by sanctified hands." And Cyprian, long before him, had said the same thing in other words^f; "The Flesh of Christ and the Holy of the Lord cannot be carried out of doors, nor is there any other house for believers besides that One, the Church." Not that the primitive Christians thought the Christian worship confined to one natural place, as the Jewish sacrifices were. No, it is certain, that when heathens or heretics drove them away from their former place of worship, they did by the first opportunity settle themselves in another; and, from that time forward, that was the One Eucharist within this district, which was celebrated at the new place of worship. And, if we will speak strictly, the Israelites themselves, during the time of their pilgrimage in the wilderness, had not one fixed and certain place for performing their public devotions; for, in every encampment which they made, a new spot of ground was laid out for the tabernacle of the congregation; and,

^d b. p. 1. Ap. l. 15.

^e d. p. 43. Ap.

^f b. p. 11. Ap.

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III.
Numb.
xxxiii. 15
—50.

from their departing from Mount Sinai until they came to Jordan, they had not less than thirty several encampments, and therefore had as many several places of religious worship; though still but one, at one time or in one encampment. It is true, their altar during all this time was one and the same, and so was the tabernacle, and the high-priest, who officiated in it until he died at Mount Hor; and the very plot of ground was, in some sense, one; I mean, it was that, on which the cloud of glory rested. The Unity of the Christian Eucharist is not of such a nature as to confine it to any one spot of ground or to one material Altar, but only to forbid two places or Altars in opposition to each other. If the Priests and people are banished from one place and Altar, they are with all convenient speed to provide another; and if the heat of persecution will not permit them to do this, they are to assemble where they can with the greatest safety; and any board or stone will supply the place of an Altar, so it be the most decent that can at present be procured. And if they are forced to shift the place of their assembly every month or every week in the year, and to have as many Altars as places of worship, yet still, all these places and Altars are mystically One; and the several Eucharists, administered in them and offered on them, are but the One Eucharist, the same that was first offered by Christ, and has in all following ages been offered by His Church; for the Flesh of Christ is One, the Spirit, Which sanctifies It, is One.

CHAP. IV.

OF EXCOMMUNICATIO.

ALTHOUGH the Eucharist, administered by vicious Priests and received by wicked people, be indeed the one true Eucharist, so long as these Priests and people are in communion with the Catholic Church; and though the pious Christian by receiving the Sacrament in a congregation, which consists for the most part of men greatly corrupted both in doctrine and manners, does certainly reap all the benefit that can be expected from this holy ordinance; yet all such Priests and people must pay dear in another world for their profanation of these Divine mysteries. And lest men should go on securely in eating and drinking their own condemnation, Christ has left an authority in His Church to expel them from the Lord's Table, who live as men unworthy of so great blessings. I shall dispatch what I have to say on this subject under the following heads; viz.,

1. The nature of this spiritual censure of excommunication;
2. The effects and consequences of it;
3. The method of loosing men from it;
4. The ends and reasonableness of this censure;
5. The corruptions under which it has fallen.

1. As to the nature of excommunication, I shall thus describe it; Excommunication in the primitive Church was ^{Excommu-}_{what.} a sentence passed by the authority of Christ upon a communicant by the Bishop or his substitutes, for some obstinate error in faith or practice, whereby the offender was deprived of the benefit of the Eucharist and of all familiar society with Christian people.

1. It was a sentence passed by the authority of Christ; Instituted by Christ. Matt. xviii. 18. for He Himself declared, that what was bound by His Church on earth should be bound in heaven, and gave an assurance to His Apostles, that "whose sins they did retain, John xx. 23.

CHAP. should be retained.” Therefore, when St. Paul had decreed
 IV. an excommunication against the incestuous Corinthian, he
 1 Cor. v. 3. intimates, that he did this “in the Name and with the power
 of our Lord Jesus Christ:” and Tertullian, therefore, calls
 excommunication a “ Divine censure.” It is certain that all
 the ancients believed that Christ had armed His Church with
 this power, and that therefore it was from God. And it is
 on good grounds believed, that this discipline was exercised
 in all Churches whose history is in any measure come down
 to us; yet there is a passage in Clement of Alexandria^h,
 which some learned men do take to mean, that “some [Bishops or Priests], after they have divided the Eucharist,
 permit every one of the people to take shares.” But I am
 persuaded that he, who impartially examines the words, will
 find, that what Clement says is this; that “some, after they
 have distributed the Eucharist, suffer every one of the people
 to carry away a piece.” It was the practice of the Churches
 of Africa and Egypt, to which Clement belonged, to let the
 people carry home some part of the consecrated Bread to be
 eaten at discretion. Clement is very far from saying, that
 every one of the people that desired it had the Communion
 administered to him; but [he says], that all that were allowed
 to receive might also take some of the remainder of the con-
 secrated Bread.

Adminis-
tered by
Bishops.

2. It was a sentence never passed in the primitive Church
 but by a Bishop or by some substituted by him. And for
 this I appeal to all that are versed in Church-history, and
 especially in the ancient Canons. Priestsⁱ indeed might

^g Tert. Apol., c. 39. [Ibidem etiam exhortationes, castigationes, et censura Divina. Nam et judicatur magno cum pondere, ut apud certos de Dei conspectu; summumque futuri judicii praejudicium est, si quis ita deliquerit, ut a communicatione orationis et conventus et omnis sancti commercii relegetur.]

^h Clem. Alex. Strom. I. 1. [tom. i. p. 318. Ed. Potter, Oxon. 1715.] Ἀνάγκη τοίνυν ἄμφω τούτῳ δοκιμάσειν σφᾶς αὐτοὺς· τὸν μὲν, εἰ οἵσιος λέγειν τε καὶ ὑπομνήματα καταλιμάνειν· τὸν δὲ, εἰ ἀκροῦσθαι τε καὶ ἐντυγχάνειν δίκαιος. ἢ καὶ τὴν Εὐχαριστίαν τιὲς διανέμαντες, ὡς ἔθος, αὐτὸν δὴ ἔκαστον τοῦ λαοῦ λαβεῖν τὴν μοῖραν ἐπιτρέπουσιν.

It seems to me, that διανείμαντες signifies ‘having distributed’ or ‘administered,’ rather than ‘having divided.’ His meaning is, that all who had received the Sacrament were by some Bishops or Priests suffered to carry a piece home with them. What was done by some in Egypt in Clement’s days was grown into a common custom in that Church in St. Basil’s days, as you may see in Part I. of Unbloody Sacrifice, pp.[343,] &c. This was practised in Africa in Tertullian’s time, as you may there also see.

ⁱ See the last Canon of Theophilus Alex. in Beveridge’s Pandect., vol. ii. p. 175.

repel obstinate offenders from the Sacrament in places remote from the Bishop's Seat; but this was not an excommunication, but only a forbearing to give the Sacrament to the offender, until the Bishop's pleasure was known. It is true the Priests of old sat on the same bench with the Bishops, and their advice was taken in this and all other matters; but they could only advise, not control. If the Bishop was dead, and none yet chosen to succeed him; yet the Priests, in want of a Bishop of their own, invited some neighbouring Bishops to direct them in matters of this nature, as we learn by that remarkable example of the Roman Clergy upon the death of Fabian their Bishop^k. Priests did sometimes sit as judges in such matters, but then it was by virtue of a special commission from the Bishop; and, even in this case, it was not unusual to join one^l or more Bishops to be commissioners together with them. I have, in the First Part^m of this work, proved that Bishops and Priests under them have the only power of consecrating and administering the Eucharist intrusted with them by Christ and by the constant universal practice of the Church; and from thence it must unavoidably follow, that they alone have the power of withholding it.

3. This sentence was never passed on any but communicants, I mean, such as had been baptized and admitted to the Eucharist; as all were in the ancient Church, as soon at least as they came to years of discretion. Catechumensⁿ were liable to be censured, but not to be excommunicated; for they were not yet admitted to the Eucharist, and therefore could not be deprived of a privilege, which they did not yet enjoy.

4. Excommunication was never passed in the primitive Church but for some gross errors either in faith or practice, or both. If there were no sin, no gross sin, there was nothing to be retained. In many cases, it was necessary that the offender should be admonished once and again, before the last remedy (I mean excommunication) was used. Our Saviour directs that, before we publicly arraign any one before the Church, we go and tell him his fault between him

Passed on
none but
communicants.

Inflicted for
none but
gross errors
in faith or
practice.

Matt. xviii.
15, 16.

^k Cyprian, Ep. 30. Ed. Oxon. [31.] Ben.]

^m p. 315.

ⁿ See Can. Nicæn. 14. Neocæs. 5.

Cyril. Alex. 2.

^l Cyprian, Ep. 41, 42.

CHAP. and ourselves alone ; and if he will not hear us, that we take
IV. with us one or two more, and in their presence repeat our
admonition ; and this rule was exceeding proper, in case of
heresy or lesser sins committed by such as were yet in actual
communion with the Church. It does not appear, that any
man was ever excommunicated in the primitive Church for
one or some few acts of intemperance or lesser injustice.
If by admonition he was restrained from running into
scandalous habits of these sins, he was safe from this spiri-
tual censure. And the same may be said in case of heresy :
if one that was in communion with the Catholic Church did
publish any false doctrine, he was not expelled out of the
Church, unless he was so obstinate as to withstand the admo-
nition and arguments which were used for his conviction.
Beryllus, Bishop of Bostra, never appears to have been laid
under any censure, though his heresy was very gross ; because
he was open to conviction, and reclaimed by the reproofs of
his neighbouring Bishops and by the reasoning of Origen.
If the crime consisted in one single fact, as murder, idolatry,
or perjury, then it was not sufficient to forbear these sins
for the future, as in the former instances : therefore, in this
case, it was to little purpose to admonish the offender to leave
his sin ; for what he had already done made him liable to ex-
communication.

The error
must be
attended
with obsti-
nacy.

Yet no man in the primitive Church was laid under the
sentence of excommunication, unless he were obstinate in
his error. If, in case of heresy or lesser crimes, he hearkened
to the admonition of his Pastors, he was, as has been said,
still continued in communion ; and if his crime were that of
murder or idolatry, yet he might escape the sentence of ex-
communication by a free voluntary confession and putting
himself into the state of public repentance. He was indeed
in this case obliged to abstain from the Communion, until
the time of his repentance was ended ; but he was not cast
out of the Church, or delivered to Satan, except he appeared
to be hardened in his crime. And this was the case of the
incestuous Corinthian ; he sinned with a high hand, he had
raised a party in the Church, and hoped by this means to
out-dare the Apostle. If he had of himself become a penitent,
he had by this means prevented the censure of excommunica-

tion ; but St. Paul knew that he was a sturdy offender, and therefore decreed this censure against him. It is very probable, that this incestuous person had been admonished to discard his lewd companion and to repent of his uncleanness, but had withheld those gentle remedies ; nay, it should seem that some attempt had been made to exercise discipline upon him. For otherwise, how could it have appeared that he and his party were puffed up, and that too many of the Church of Corinth were tardy in neglecting to do their part, in order to have him “that had done this deed taken away from among them”^{1 Cor. v. 2.} When Andronicus, the governor of Ptolemais, in the beginning of the fifth century, had been guilty of great outrages upon the people, and, in the opinion of Synesius the Bishop of that city, deserved to be excommunicated ; yet a synod of neighbouring Bishops, upon Andronicus’s promise of reformation, advised and prevailed with him to delay the passing of that sentence against him.

5. The censure of excommunication deprived men of two privileges :

(1.) The first of these privileges was the Eucharist, and all that solemn part of Divine worship, which was peculiar to the Faithful, that is, the Communicants. What men lost by excommunication.

(2.) Excommunication did likewise deprive men of the benefit of all familiar conversation with Christian people. It was not lawful “even to eat” with such a man, by the direction of St. Paul himself. These particulars are so well known, that I need not further insist on the proof of them.

But it does particularly deserve our reflection, that ex-communication was never passed, in the Apostolical times, but in the face of that Church to which the offender belonged ; and, indeed, the sentence itself was at first only an order from the Bishop to cast the offender out of the congregation. The primitive Fathers followed the example of St. Paul ; and therefore, when any communicant had been guilty of gross crimes, and would not otherwise be reformed, they charged the Clergy and people to “cast the offender out from among them, when they were met together.” The most ancient Form of Excommunication, that is now anywhere extant, is only this ; that o

^o Ap. Const., lib. ii. c. 16. Ἰδῶν δὲ σὺ (Ἐπίσκοπε) τὸν ἡμαρτηκότα, κέλευσον αὐτὸν ἔξω βληθῆναι.

CHAP. IV. "when the Bishop sees the offender, having expressed his concern and anguish of mind, he should command him to be turned out of doors." And in the places more remote, or in the Bishop's absence, the Priests, commissioned by him, pronounced this sentence. Tertullian^p, speaking of the Christian assemblies for worship, tells us that in them the Divine sentence, meaning excommunication, is executed.

What share
the people
had in this
censure.

Nor are we to consider the people as bare witnesses or spectators in this solemn affair. It was expected of them that they should make their complaints, produce their evidence, if the case were not notorious, and draw up their plea against the offender; and that they should join with the Bishop and Clergy in expressing their grief for the scandal done to the Church, and the mischief which he had pulled upon his own head by his open crimes. All this St. Paul intimates to be the duty of the people; when he rebukes the Christians at Corinth, because they had not mourned, that the incestuous person might be taken away from among them. Nay, further, the people were to shew their approbation of the sentence passed upon the offender by joining to cast or thrust him out of the congregation, and by avoiding his company while he remained obstinate; and therefore excommunication might justly be styled 'a punishment inflicted of' or by 'many,' even as many as belonged to that Diocese; nay, by all Christians throughout the world. For as the Eucharist was One all the world over, and as Christians coming from the most remote parts were admitted to the Lord's Table, if they brought letters from the Bishop of the Church, to which they had formerly belonged; so excommunication was universal; for no Christian could be admitted to Communion in a strange Church without such letters from his former Bishop, which were never granted to a person under this sentence; so that, by being excommunicated by his own Bishop, he was shut out from Communion in all other Churches under heaven, except he could find a Bishop false to his trust.

The Bishop
and Clergy,
with the
people,
sufficient

And even in the fifth century, when the primitive simplicity began to decline, and when the sentence of excommunication was drawn and passed with more state and cir-

^p Apolog., c. 39. Coimus ad literarum Divinarum commemorationem—

ibidem etiam exhortationes, castigations, et censura Divina—.

cumstance, yet it still ran in the name of the Church to which the offender belonged, and not of the Bishop only. And though the neighbouring Bishops met in Synod to give their judgment in the case, yet still the sentence was not formed in such a manner, as to imply that the authority of the Synod was necessary to this purpose. Of this we have an instance in Andronicus. If indeed the offender had been a Bishop, then he could not have had this or any other censure passed on him but by a considerable number of his own brethren; but Andronicus and his complices were laymen; therefore the Bishop, with his clergy and people, were sufficient to execute this sentence. But because he was a person of great quality and power, therefore Synesius was willing to take the advice of the neighbouring Bishops in so great a case. I will here insert the translation of this sentence of excommunication, because I take it to be the most ancient form of this sort, that is now to be found. "The Church of Ptolemais⁹ gives this charge to all her sister Churches throughout the world. Let no temple of God be open to Andronicus and Thoas, and their complices. Let every holy place and its verge be shut against them. The devil has no part in Paradise, and if he comes in clandestinely is driven out. I charge, therefore, every private man and Governor not to dwell in the same house, nor eat at the same table with them; especially [I charge] Priests, that they neither converse with them while living, nor attend their funerals when dead. If any one shall despise this Church as being small, and shall receive those who are excommunicated by her, as if it were needless to regard her,

⁹ ['Ἐπὶ τούτοις, ἡ Πτολεμαΐδος ἐκκλησία τάδε πρὸς τὰς ἀπανταχοῦ γῆς ἑαυτῆς ἀδελφὰς διατάττεται. Ἀνδρονίκῳ καὶ τοῖς αὐτοῦ, Θωάτῳ καὶ τοῖς αὐτοῦ, μηδὲν ἀνοιγνύσθω τέμενος τοῦ Θεοῦ· ἄπας αὐτοῖς ιερὸς ἀποκεκλεισθώ, καὶ σηκός, καὶ περιβόλος. Οὐκ ἔστι τῷ διαβόλῳ μέρος ἐν παραδείσῳ, οὐ κανέλαόρη διαδύνεται. Παραινῶ μεν οὖν καὶ ἰδιώτῃ παντὶ καὶ ὅρχοντι, μήτε διμορφίον αὐτῷ μήτε διμοτράπεξον γίνεσθαι· ἵερουν δὲ διαιφέροντας, οὐ μήτε ἔχωντας αὐτοὺς προσεροῦνται, μήτε τελευτήσαντας συμπροπέμψουσιν. Εἰ δέ τις ἡς μικροπολίτιν ἀποσκυβαλίσει τὴν ἐκκλησίαν, καὶ δέξεται τοὺς ἀποκηρύκ-

IV.
without
other help
to inflict
excommu-
nication.

τοὺς αὐτῆς, ὡς οὐκ ἀνάγκη τῇ πένητι πείθεσθαι· ἵστω σχίσας τὴν ἐκκλησίαν, ἦν μίαν δὲ Χριστὸς εἶναι βούλεται. Ο δὲ τοιούτος, εἴτε Λευίτης ἐστὶν εἴτε πρεσβύτερος εἴτε ἐπίσκοπος, παρ' ήμιν ἐν Ἀνδρονίκου μοιρὰ τετάξεται, καὶ οὕτε ἐμβαλούμεν αὐτῷ δεξιάν, οὔτε ἀπὸ τῆς αὐτῆς ποτε σιτησόμεθα· πολλοῦ δὴ δεήσομεν κοινωνῆσαι τῆς ἀπορρήτου τελετῆς, τοῖς ἔθελήσασιν ἔχειν μερίδα μετ' Ἀνδρονίκου καὶ Θωάτου.—Synesii Epist. 58. Ed. Paris. 1612. Vid. Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, vol. ii. p. 484. Ed. Lond. 1838.]

C H A P. because she is poor; let him be esteemed as a man that
 IV. divides the Church, which Christ would have to be One. But such a man, whether he be Levite, Priest, or Bishop, shall by us be placed in the same rank with Andronicus; we will neither salute him, nor eat with him; much less will we communicate the ineffable Sacrifice to them that choose to have their portion with Andronicus and Thoas." This sentence, though for some time delayed, was afterwards put in execution.

Pastors
chiefly con-
cerned to
see it in-
flicted.

2 Cor. xii.
ult.

2 Cor. xii.
2. 10.

2 Cor. xiii.
1.

The mean-
ing of 'de-
livering to
Satan.'

But if the people were backward in giving information and evidence against offenders, yet it was the Pastors' part to remind them of their duty, and not to permit public crimes to pass without censure. Therefore St. Paul takes notice to the Corinthians of several amongst them "that had not repented of the fornication, uncleanness, and lasciviousness, which they had committed;" and in relation to these he declares, that "when he came again, he would not spare, but use sharpness, according to the power which God had given him." And because the generality of the Christians at Corinth did not seem disposed to prosecute these offenders, he declares, that "in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word should be established:" by which he means that, as he would not proceed to sentence without full evidence, so he should esteem two or three witnesses sufficient to convict any offender.

II. I proceed to shew the effects and consequences of excommunication. And, as to the immediate outward effects of it, we have seen that they were a separation from communion with the Church both in sacred matters and in conversation. What was further meant by turning the offender out of the doors of the Church, is expressed by St. Paul by "delivering him to Satan." Now the most plain and obvious sense of this phrase is, that the offender by being cast out from the Church was thereby publicly and solemnly given up to his proper lord and master. It was thereby declared, that he belonged not to Christ or to the kingdom of light, but to the prince and kingdom of darkness. The whole Church thereby disowned and discarded the excommunicated person, as one who by his sins had evidently rendered himself a son of perdition, an enemy to

truth, peace, and holiness ; and therefore they resigned him C H A P.
IV.
up to his true owner.

Some both of the ancients of the fourth century and of our modern Divines do suppose that St. Paul, by delivering the offender to Satan, did mean to say, that by virtue of this sentence the devil had such power over him, as to be thereby enabled to inflict pains and diseases on him. Now I have no great reason to contradict these great men in this particular ; so it be allowed, that these pains and diseases were an additional punishment over and above the excommunication, which was most certainly passed upon him, and clearly expressed by the phrase of ‘being taken’ or put ‘away from among them ;’ but I must confess, I do not see sufficient ^{1 Cor. v. 2.} _{18.} reason to believe that St. Paul intended any such thing ; nor does it appear from any other text of Scripture, that either the incestuous person, or Hymenæus and Alexander, ^{1 Tim. i. ult.} the only men who are elsewhere said to have fallen under this censure, were ever treated by Satan in this manner. When St. Paul smote Elymas with blindness, he found no occasion to make the devil the instrument of executing this sentence on him ; for he expressly says, “The hand of the Lord is upon thee.” Much more might be said, if there were occasion for me to labour in this point ; but I look on this as a mere conjecture of some great men, and as such dismiss it.

Certainly, he, who considers what it was to be delivered to Satan in the sense I first mentioned, will easily perceive that it was a sentence sufficient to raise the greatest horror and agonies in the mind of any man, who believed the Gospel to be true. For a Christian to hear himself pronounced unworthy to continue in communion with the Church, to see himself driven away from God’s people, from the assembly of the saints, and debarred from the use of the greatest privilege on earth, which is the public worship of God, and yielded up to Satan as his own slave and property, and declared, as Andronicus was in the form of excommunication above recited, to be in the same state (while he remained impenitent) with the fallen angels, and to have no part in Paradise, by a sentence passed by a commissioned officer of Christ Jesus, backed and seconded by the unanimous consent of the

The se-
verity of the
sentence of
excommu-
nication.

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people; the judge and the whole assembly expressing at the same time their greatest sorrow and most affectionate concern for his soul: for the offender to consider, that he had so severe a sentence passed on him by the most merciful and tender court that ever was upon earth; that the only good and valuable body of men in this world would for the future discard and abandon him, and avoid him, as they would one infected with the plague; this, besides the reproof of his own conscience, must be more than enough to awaken him into a sense of his former folly. I mean this, upon supposition that he did in earnest believe the Christian Religion; and if he did not, then, as his condition was desperate before, so now his hypocrisy was made manifest to others. Tertullian justly says of the primitive excommunication, that it was as it were "the doomsday of a sinner in this present life," by which he was banished from the presence of the Lord and from the society of true Israelites, and beforehand delivered up to the tormentor; who, when we have done evil, is always lying at the door, as ready to seize and devour us. And the sinner, who believed that what was thus bound on earth should be bound in heaven too, must therefore look on the Divine sentence as too heavy to be borne with any degree of ease or patience. And, indeed, nothing could make it tolerable but a fatal stupidness of mind, proceeding from want of faith, in the man who was excommunicated, and to whom therefore the excommunication passed by the Church was a most certain presage of eternal condemnation; and so much the rather, because the offender was altogether insensible of it; if any thing could lighten the weight of this sentence to a sincere believer, when he knew he had deserved it, it must be the hopes, which God and the Church had given him, of being delivered from it.

But there were many men under the effects of an excommunication, who could not be formally excommunicated. They could not be turned out of the Church, because they never came within the doors of it; and yet were in all other respects treated as men under this grievous sentence. Such were

* Summumque futuri judicij præ-judicium est, si quis ita deliquerit, ut a communicatione orationis et conven-

tūs et omnis sancti commercii relegetur.—Apolog., c. 39.

1. They, who had formerly been of the Church, but afterwards deserted it, either out of downright looseness and infidelity, and so became apostates to the Jewish or the heathen religion ; or, as Porphyry did, lived in neglect and contempt of all public worship whatsoever. These are said to “fall away,” to “sin” or err “wilfully,” by St. Paul ; and this is called “the sin unto death” by St. John. To feast^s with the Jews or Gentiles, or to have but once eat with heathens of things sacrificed to idols, or to have performed any act of idolatrous worship to false gods, was a crime that made a Christian liable to excommunication ; but if he not only once or twice worshipped an idol, but persisted in that folly, and absented himself from the Christian Church, he was worse than a person excommunicated, as we shall presently see. If a man were one of those who “made divisions,” that called himself a Christian, but separated himself from the true Apostolical Church, as the author or abettor of some new dangerous opinion, he could not be formally expelled out of the Church ; but such a one was to be “marked” or ‘noted,’ and sound Christians were warned not to keep company with him ; they were not, properly speaking, excommunicated by the Church, but “self-condemned.” Sometimes a Bishop, duly ordained, and who had formerly been sound in his faith and practice, broached or espoused some heretical doctrine, and misled his own flock. This was the case of Eustathius, Bishop of Sebastia, and of many others, who followed the pestilent doctrine of Arius. Now they and their people could not be excommunicated, that is, turned out of the Church in the primitive Apostolical form : but yet they were looked on as persons under that censure ; and Eustathius was with his adherents struck with an anathema by the Synod of Gangra, and the Arians by the first of Nice. And I suppose that by ‘anathema’ they only meant a full and perfect sentence of condemnation pronounced against a great body of men at once, whereby it was declared to be in the same condition as if they had been excommunicated, or rather worse.

2. Such were they, who had never been of the Apostolical Church, but [were] bred in heresy or schism. They could not therefore be cast out of the Church ; and yet were by the

CHAP.
IV
Deserters
under the
effect of ex-
communica-
tion.

Heb. vi. 5 ;
x. 26.

¹ John v.
16.

Rom. xvi.
17; 2 Thess
iii. 14.

Tit. iii. 11.

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primitive Christians avoided, as if they had been under a formal excommunication, and were oftentimes by the Bishops in their synods pronounced to be ‘anathema.’ They were, while they continued in their errors, treated, as the heathen and publicans were by the Jews; and yet many of them were upon their conversion received into the Church without rebaptization. And this brings me to consider,

Who were
finally cut
off, or ex-
communicated.

III. The method of loosing men from the sentence of excommunication in the primitive Church. And here, before I proceed, I shall observe that some were so wholly and finally cut off from the Church, that they never had any hopes of being restored: such were they, who having formerly been excommunicated for some scandalous offence, were upon their repentance received to communion, but yet afterwards relapsed into the same or some other grievous crime. For no one in the primitive Church could be loosed from a second sentence of excommunication; for they allowed but *one* repentance^t for gross heinous sins after Baptism; therefore such a man was left to the mercy of God. Thus a false accuser of his brethren, having been excommunicated and then reconciled, but who yet afterwards fell into the same crime, was finally cut off. The Church did not think herself empowered to receive such an one into communion; but he was in the same condition with the apostate; it was impossible^u, by the laws of Christianity as then understood, to renew such an one to repentance, or to admit him a second time to penance, and by that means to pardon. Others, who were not absolutely denied reconciliation, yet had by their conduct in the main course of their lives, before they had drawn upon themselves the sentence of excommunication, shewed that they were but cold indifferent Christians; and therefore, when they were fallen under this sentence by reason of some flagrant crime, they were not easily admitted again to communion, for fear they should return to their

^t [“Alia poenitentia non est, nisi illa, cum in aquam descendimus et accipimus remissionem peccatorum nostrorum, ulterius non peccare, sed in castitate permanere—post vocatiōnem illam magnam et sanctam, si quis tentatus fuerit a diabolo et peccaverit, unam poenitentiam habet. Si autem

subinde peccet, et poenitentiam agit, non proderit homini talia agenti; difficile enim vivet Deo.”]—Herm. Pastor, lib. ii. Mand. iv. sect. 3. [Ed. Hefele, Tubingæ, 1842.] Apost. Constitut., lib. ii. c. 43. [Ed. Labbe and Cossart.]

^u Heb. vi. 6. See Grot. and Ham. in loc.

vomit. Nay, sometimes, when men of unblemished lives were excommunicated for any crying enormous sin, the Church, out of a pious resentment of the scandal given by the fall of such a person, kept him for a long while under the sentence of excommunication, without allowing him the privilege of standing among the Penitents, or coming within the doors of the Church. Serapion was a person of a fair character, if we may believe Eusebius; but when, by sacrificing to idols in time of persecution, he had given very great offence to the Christian Church, Dionysius of Alexandria, his Bishop, with the Clergy and people of that Diocese, out of a holy indignation against the base perfidiousness of such a man, were deaf to all his entreaties and intercessions; none either of the Clergy or laity would speak to the Bishop on his behalf; nor would Dionysius regard the offender's petitions, when seconded by no one else. It often happened^x, that men remained in this condition, as Serapion did, until they were in extreme danger of dying. It was a general rule^y of discipline never to deny them the Communion, when they were thought to be passing into the other world. And, by giving singular proof of their real repentance and conversion, they were often admitted to it before. However, none but apostates and relapsers were wholly and everywhere excluded from it. For though some grand offenders^z, beside these, were said to be "entirely cast out" and "cut off" from the Church; yet there is reason to believe, that this general rule of giving the Eucharist to all, excepting those now mentioned, at the point of death, did for the most part at least prevail, unless they were such as never shewed their desire of it before.

But in ordinary cases, when the crime was not exceedingly enormous, or the offender not perfectly profligate and extravagantly wicked or hardened, the Church was so far from being backward in admitting men to the state of Penitents and then into perfect communion, that she took all possible care that no man should continue long under the sentence of excommunication. In the most ancient description of ex-

^x These were called *ἀδεκτοι*, that is, 'men not received' into the station of Penitents.—Can. Ap. 12, Bas. 81.

^y Can. Nic. 13.

^z Such as those mentioned, Can. Ap. 30, viz., Clergymen, who made bold to officiate, when regularly deposed; or who had purchased holy orders.

Common
offenders,
how recon-
ciled.

CHAP. IV. communication before-mentioned, “The Deacons follow him that is cast out of the Church, and take hold of him, and some of them go in to the Bishop and intercede in his behalf; the Bishop orders him to be brought in again, and judges whether he is fit to be received; and if he think him so to be, then enjoins him a certain time of fasting and humiliation, at the end of which he is again admitted to full communion^a.” And there is no reason to doubt but this was the common method of proceeding in this case, and that the generality of offenders did not long continue under this heavy censure.

Deferring
repentance
increased
the weight
of the cen-
sure.

If they did indeed for years together rest easy and patient under it, by this means they increased their burden, and rendered their reconciliation more difficult. If they deferred their endeavours for obtaining the peace of the Church, until^b they found themselves to be in a dying condition, this was the greatest aggravation of their obstinacy, and in this case they were rarely, if at all, restored to communion: but ordinary offenders were probably soon melted into repentance, and convinced of the necessity of submitting to discipline, and thereby regaining the privilege of perfect communion; and this was to be done, not presently and by one slight confession of their faults, but by several steps and degrees.

1. The excommunicate person must apply himself to the Deacon, that he would speak in his behalf to the Bishop, or the Priest who acted in his stead, and put up his request to him, that he might be admitted into the state of a Penitent. And this request was not presently granted to heinous offenders, but they were obliged to stand without the doors of the Church, craving of the Clergy and people, as they entered in, to intercede with God and the Bishop in their behalf, that they might be permitted to stand among the Penitents and give proof of their sincere conversion. For

^a Ap. Const., lib. ii. c. 16. Ἐξελθόντι αὐτῷ πικραιέσθωσαν οἱ Διάκονοι, καὶ ἐπιχηροῦντες κατεσχέτωσαν αὐτὸν ἔξω τῆς ἐκκλησίας, καὶ εἰσελθόντες ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ σὲ (Ἐπίσκοπον) ἐρωτήτωσαν—τότε σὺ κελεύσεις εἰσελθεῖν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἀνακρίνας εἰ μετανοεῖ—στιβώσας αὐτὸν ἡμέρας νηστειῶν κατὰ τὸ ἀμάρτημα—

οὗτος ἀπόλυτον.

^b Cypr., Ep. 55. Ed. Oxon. [52. Ed. Ben.) Poenitentiam non agentes—prohibendis omnino censuimus a spe communicationis et pacis, si in infirmitate atque in periculo cœperint deprecari.

as the primitive Church believed that a special repentance was necessary for them, who had been guilty of such crimes as deserved excommunication; so they judged no repentance to be available in this case, but a long, solemn, public humiliation in the sight of men as well as of God. Therefore no man could hope (except in some special cases) to have this censure wholly taken off in the primitive Church, until he had first performed the penance enjoined him by the Bishop. The allowing men in this condition a place among the Penitents was esteemed a favour and indulgence; and it was expected that the offender should ask it, and shew himself worthy of it by a modest^c, humble importunity, and a diligence that yet would bear with delay; for it is not to be supposed, that the Bishop would in things of this nature proceed without due deliberation; the exercise of discipline was the greatest trial of his prudence; therefore his proceedings must not be hasty.

As soon as the offender was admitted to penance, one part of his sentence was immediately revoked; I mean, he was from that time forward permitted to converse familiarly with Christian people^d. No man was forbid to have society with the Penitents, but only with them that were excommunicated, that is, who remained hardened in that condition, or whose case was so bad that they were not yet allowed the privilege of penance; and they who had gained this ground were no longer said to be excommunicated^e, but suspended from communion^f, or separated from the Eucharist for a set time. During the time of penance they were permitted to enter into the lower part of the Church, and to hear the Scriptures, Sermons, Hymns, and Psalms; and there was a particular prayer used by the Bishop in behalf of those that were in a state of penance; but they were not suffered to be present at the morning^g and evening prayers of the Faithful in the more ancient times; yet in the sixth century this was allowed^h.

^e *Cypriano Clerus Rom.*, Ep. 30. Ed. Oxon. [31. Ed. Ben. Multum illis proficiet petitio modesta, postulatio verecunda, humilitas necessaria, patientia non otiosa, &c.

^d *Ap. Const.*, lib. ii. c. 40, οὐδὲ κώλυσεις αὐτὸν τοῦ Κυριακοῦ λόγου, οὐδὲ κοινῆς διάλτης αὐτὸν ἔξωπεις—τοῖς οὖν

δι' ἀμαρτίας ἀφορισθεῖσι παρ' ὑμῶν ('Επισκοπῶν) καὶ συναναστρέψθε, καὶ συναλίξεσθε, κ. τ. λ.

^e Ἀκοινώνητοι, ἐκβαλλόμενοι.

^f Ἀφοριζόμενοι.

^g *Const. Apost.*, lib. viii. c. 34.

^h See Binius, [tom. vi. p. 618. Ed. Par. 1589,] a fragment of Joannes

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Ancient
penance,
what.

2. The next was the longest and the hardest task which the offender was obliged to perform, I mean the penance itself, which was indeed very severe. It consisted in frequent fastingsⁱ, in wearing coarse and sordid clothes, in appearing in the face of the congregation in sack-cloth and ashes, avoiding the innocent pleasures of life, feasting, gay apparel, ointments, bathings, and the like; but especially, in the frequent confession of their sins before the Church, and throwing themselves at the feet of the Clergy and people, as they entered into the Church, in order to obtain their prayers. This course they were commonly obliged to take for several years together, though sometimes^j the prefixed term of their penance was shortened by the Bishop, when he saw some extraordinary proofs of their zeal and earnestness; and, especially, if the Penitents^k were dangerously sick, and the people became intercessors with the Bishop to admit the Penitent to the Communion. And as it was in the Bishop's power to shorten the time of penance; so he could, when he saw occasion, increase or lengthen it^l. And for the indulgences granted to them who, when they had been guilty of great crimes, were excused by the letters of dying Martyrs, they were certainly a horrible breach and violation of Church discipline; and as such I pass them over. I shall therefore only add, that the Penitent^m, when the term of his humiliation was now expiring, was permitted to stay out the whole Communion-Service, and therefore to be present at the prayers, though not to partake of the Eucharist; and the leastⁿ penance that I can anywhere observe inflicted on the slightest offenders was, to be immediately admitted to this chief station of the Penitents, without being obliged to stand at all at the lower end of the Church.

Jejunator, and in that the following words in Latin only: In rei autem sacrae celebratione omnes qui poenitentiam agunt, et non communicant, diximus Catechumenorum edicto debere ex templo egredi, et stare in ferula; in matutino autem, vesperis, et reliquis, templi aditum non eis esse prohibitum, quo minus possint ingredi et in eo stare, si velint.

ⁱ See Cyprian, De Lapsis.

^j Can. Nic. 12.

^k Cypr., Ep. 64. [Ed. Oxon. 59. Ed. Ben.] Ut ante legitimū et plenum

tempus satisfactionis, et sine petitu et conscientiā plebis, nullā infirmitate urgente ac necessitate cogente, pax ei concederetur.

^l See Can. Anc. 5.

^m Can. Nic. 11.

ⁿ Can. Gregor. Thaumaturg. 9. It was the penance laid by this holy man on those who found the goods of others in their own houses, left there by raparees; and, after they had for some time concealed them, did freely discover them.

There were one sort of offenders, and they none of the least, who yet were admitted to communion without undergoing this painful discipline ; I mean, heretics and schismatics. For it does not appear to me, that they were generally condemned to do penance, but presently upon their conversion they were placed among the Catechumens^o, not the Penitents ; and so they were in a few days admitted to Baptism, if they were thought not to be sufficiently baptized before ; if they were, the Bishop laid his hands on them and anointed them, and then they were forthwith received to communion in the Eucharist, after they had first condemned all errors, and recanted that of which themselves had been guilty. It is certain that, before their conversion, they were in all respects looked on as excommunicated ; it was unlawful to converse with them, or give them a friendly salute, much more was it ^{2 John 10,} forbud to permit them to receive the Eucharist ; they were believed to be under an anathema, which some would have to import somewhat more than an excommunication ; but it is certain that they were received to communion upon much easier terms than they who were laid under the sentence of excommunication for common immoralities.

3. Before Penitents were allowed to receive the Eucharist, the Bishop laid his hands on them, and used a prayer to God for the pardon of their sins. Nay, in some places at least, they were first received into the number of Penitents by this solemn rite, and had it frequently repeated^p during the time of penance ; and the sin of excommunicated persons is sometimes said to be loosed or forgiven by means of these prayers, and therefore they are called ‘the Absolution’ of the Priest^q. But it is very clear, that the pardon of the Penitent was not thought to be perfectly sealed and confirmed by this rite of laying on of hands or the prayers used on this occasion ; for then it had been absurd and inconsistent to do this over and again. The prayers used on this occasion^r were always the

The Absolu-tion of
the Priest,
what.

^o See Can. Laod. 7, 8. Constant. 7. Yet in France penance was enjoined to the Novatians and other heretics on their conversion ; if the Canons of the second Synod of Arles, and those of Agde, are of any authority. See Can. Arel. 9. Bin., tom. i. p. 698. Can. Agath. 60. [tom. iii. p. 716.]

^p Omni tempore jejunii manus pœ-

nitentibus a sacerdotibus imponantur. Conc. Carthag. 4. c. 80. [Labbe, tom. ii. p. 1444.]

^q Const. Ap., lib. ii. c. 18, τὸς δὲ ἡμαρτηκότας νουθέτει, καὶ στιβῶν ἐν τῇ νηστείᾳ, ἐν τῇ ἀφέσει ἐλάφρυνον, κ. τ. λ.

^r You have the Forms provided for this occasion, Apost. Constt., lib. viii. c. 8, 9. and it is evident, that these

CHAP.
IV.
Heretics
and schis-
matics ad-
mitted
without
penance.

CHAP. same, and they were an Absolution the first time they were rehearsed. And if, by calling them by this name, they had intended to persuade men that the Penitent was fully pardoned, there can be no reason why they should be so very often repeated over the same person; therefore they were called ‘an Absolution,’ because the prayers of the Priest were always believed to be most prevalent with God in behalf of repenting sinners, and because by this laying on of hands they were received into the station of Penitents, and continued in it; by which means they were by degrees loosed and discharged from the bond of excommunication, and at last received into a state of perfect grace and pardon.

How they
were per-
fectly and
finally ab-
solved.

4. Their reconciliation was completed, and they were declared to be in perfect favour with God and all Christian men, by being restored to the most eminent privilege of receiving the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ. This the ancient Church expressed by saying, that the Penitent was returned to his ‘old pasture’ and his ‘former dignity^s.’ They, that have with the greatest diligence searched into antiquity, can discover no other rite or solemnity used upon this occasion, but barely the admitting the Penitents to communion; by this they were entirely acquitted and absolved from the censure under which their crimes had laid them; by this their sins were remitted unto them, and so they became once more fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, but were for ever forbid to be received into Holy Orders.

Giving the
Sacrament
once upon
a death-
bed, not a
perfect Ab-
solution.

It is true, in one case, the Holy Sacrament was administered to Penitents, not as a certain seal of their pardon, but as a signification of the tenderness of the Pastor and Church toward their souls, and as an expression of their best and most earnest wishes of their eternal peace and salvation; I mean, when they gave it to them upon presumption, that they were now a-dying, before the term of their penance was expired, and sometimes before they had been admitted into the state

prayers were used before every Communion-Service, and that hands were laid on all the Penitents as oft as these prayers were repeated; *vide locum, et*

notas Cl. Cotelierii in eundem.

* Ap. Constt., lib. ii. c. 41, [εἰς τὴν ἀρχαίαν αὐτοῦ νομήν—καὶ εἰς τὴν πρότεραν ἀξίαν—.]

of Penitents, which was Serapion's case. That they did not intend the Eucharist as an assurance of pardon to such persons is evident, I think, from this, that he who had the Sacrament indulged to him in this case, if he recovered beyond expectation from his present sickness, was not permitted for the future to receive the Eucharist until the time of his penance was completed^t. Just with the same view, toward the latter end of the fourth century, they did in the Western Church allow the Communion to him on his death-bed, who had relapsed into his sins a second time, after he had once been excommunicated and reconciled, contrary to the known ancient rule. In both these cases it is most rational to believe, that they designed not, by thus for once granting them the Sacrament, to express their assurance, but only their charitable hopes, of the Penitent's pardon and salvation. And this only proves what I have before at large asserted^u, that it is not the receiving the Eucharist once or now and then, but the constant use of it, that keeps men in a state of Communion with God and Christ Jesus, and gives them a well-grounded confidence of their pardon and eternal happiness; for our Saviour hath declared, that "Except we feed on the Flesh of the Son of Man, we have no life in us." And it seems plain, that the primitive Church, by giving the Sacrament once to a dying Penitent, did thereby declare her hope that the man's condition was not absolutely desperate; and, by allowing it to be done but once, took care that she might not be understood to own him as a settled communicant^x, or as one that could plead a right to the constant participation of the Sacramental Body and Blood of Christ and the grand blessings thereunto belonging.

IV. I am next to shew the ends and reasonableness of excommunication; and that,

1. In regard to Christ and His Church. As our Saviour was a preacher of righteousness, as His Church was designed to be a peculiar people, zealous of good works; so it was necessary, that He should not only lay strong obligations upon men to practise the laws which He taught, but take

To the
Church ex-
communi-
cation ne-
cessary for
the dis-
courag-
ement of
vice and
error.

^t Sirici Decret. 5.

of those, Qui Corpus attingunt, et Eu-
charistiam jure communicationis acci-
piunt, &c.

^u Chap. II. Sect. iii.

^x This seems to me to be St. Cyprian's meaning, when he speaks (g. p. 12. Ap.)

CHAP. IV. the most proper course to discountenance vice in His followers, and to "purge His floor" from all gross filth and impurity. To think otherwise is to suppose that He intended His Church to be a den of thieves, a sanctuary for villainy and lewdness: and since He lays no temporal restraints or punishments on men, no fines or imprisonments, no bodily stripes or tortures; it is therefore necessary, that He should by some other means humble the arrogance of bold offenders, or at least wipe off that scandal and reproach, which they by their words and actions would otherwise bring on His Religion and those who profess it. He never gave a commission to His Apostles or other Ministers to make use of the temporal sword for the punishment of evil doers, or for the cutting off vicious members with present death; yet He thought it not reasonable, that notorious sinners, hardened malefactors, filthy debauchees, should enjoy the outward privileges of His Church, and cause His Name to be blasphemed by their profaneness and impiety. Therefore He gave authority to the chief officers of His spiritual kingdom to expel out of their society all such as should give just offence to others by their gross errors in principle or practice; that so they who, under pretence of being Christians, do the greatest dishonour to Him and His Gospel, might either be ashamed into a reformation of their doctrine and manners; or, however, that others might be made sensible, that the Church of Christ disowns and abhors all such workers of iniquity.

Civil punishments of Christian magistrates do not make it unnecessary.

Some would persuade us, that, in nations where Christianity is espoused and protected by the Civil Power, there can be no further occasion for the exercise of discipline or excommunication. And if murderers and robbers did always meet with that punishment which they deserve from the civil magistrates, I mean, if they were put to death, there could indeed be no occasion for the Bishop to use the spiritual sword of excommunication against those who had been guilty of it. But there never was, I suppose, any Prince or state, that did not sometimes pardon these crimes. And shall a Christian, who has committed wilful murder, or wronged others by open violence, be continued in the Communion of the Church and be allowed all the privileges of it, because

the Prince hath thought fit to give him his life? If the C H A P.
IV. magistrate grant a toleration to idolaters, must therefore the Church be obliged to own them as her members, who have polluted themselves by joining with those idolaters in their worship? Few Princes or states, who have professed Christianity, did ever think fit to inflict any punishment on adultery, incest, or fornication, except in some singular cases; must therefore the Church cherish such as indulge themselves in such foul practices? But, above all, if a Constantius climb the throne, and become a patron to Arians or other heretics, shall the Bishops of the Church be silent, and not dare to denounce their anathemas against those, who are the leaders or followers of such pernicious sects and conspiracies against truth and peace? And if it be necessary that the Church should disavow and abandon all such vicious members, then it is plain that she should do it in such a manner as Christ has directed. And I make bold to add, that no supposed league or alliance between the Church and State can deprive the Church of this power. If any body of Bishops and Pastors should expressly covenant with the Prince under whom they live, that they would abdicate and renounce this authority of excommunication, upon condition that they might have his protection in exercising the other parts of their function, it is evident that all such covenants would be null and void; for a Bishop is under a prior obligation to a greater Prince than any here on earth, to make use of the power that God has given him to the edification of His Church. And a Bishop, without the power of excommunication, is as great an absurdity as a supreme magistrate, without a sword for the punishment of evil doers.

2. The ends and reasonableness of excommunication are very apparent, in regard to the Eucharist: for this, being the most excellent and noble institution that God ever gave to His Church, it being the Bread of Heaven which endureth to everlasting life, the true Manna, the mysterious Body and Blood of Christ, is not to be profaned with the hands or mouths of impious men; this is the highest indignity that can be offered to that most Divine Mystery. Even the heathen took care to drive all notorious offenders from their altars. And when the Jews had filled their hands with

Excommu-
nication in-
tended to
be a guard
and fence
to the Eu-
charist.

CHAP. IV. blood, and defiled themselves to such a degree, that their guilt appeared red as crimson, God, by His Prophet, asks Isa. 1. 12. them, "Who hath required this at your hands, to tread My courts?" When the Christians at Corinth came to take the Sacrament with divided unpeaceable minds and with heads full of intemperance, and were so thoughtless as to commit disorders at the very time of receiving it, St. Paul charges 1 Cor. xi. 27. them for having "eaten that Bread and drunk that Cup unworthily;" and thereupon, to represent their crime fully and to the life, he tells them, they were "guilty of the Body and Blood of Christ." For he justly supposed, that nothing could look more odious in the eye of a sincere Christian than to see a contempt and indignity put upon the Body and Blood of His ever-blessed Redeemer; and he at the same time gives a very strong and clear hint, that the Bread is that Body, the Wine is that Blood, though not in substance, yet in life and spirit. Since therefore the Eucharist is so venerable and Divine a thing, it must be allowed to be fit and reasonable, that it should be fenced and guarded from the touch and approach of scandalous and notorious sinners: and this could not be done but by lodging a power in the Pastors of the Church to keep all gross offenders at a due distance from it; and it was to this end and purpose, that excommunication was made the punishment of all unworthy receivers. Therefore Justin Martyr assures us, that in his time^y "it was unlawful for any one to partake of it, that did not believe the Christian doctrine, that had not been baptized, and did not live as Christ had instructed him." St. Cyprian aggravates the crime of some Christians, who had done sacrifice to idols, and yet presumed to go to the Lord's Table, hoping to escape censure; by saying^z, "They go from the altars of devils to the Holy of the Lord with polluted hands; they invade the Body of our Lord, and so sin more against Him both with mouth and hands than when they denied Him." And, to mention no more at present, Chrysostom^a declares, "he would rather shed his own blood than profusely to lavish the tremendous Blood of Christ, by giving it even to a general or emperor, contrary to right and reason."

^y a. p. 2. Ap.^z e. p. 11. Ap.^a w. p. 40. Ap.

And it is to be observed that the whole process of excommunication and reconciliation turned upon this principle, that the Eucharist was too sacred and valuable a mystery to be administered to notorious wilful sinners; and yet so necessary, that he, who rightly understood it, would submit to any hardship in order to obtain it. The offender was cast out from among the communicants, when they were met together to celebrate this holy ordinance, to shew that such a pearl was not to be thrown to swine. St. Paul bids the Corinthians "purge out the old leaven," that is, cast out ^{1 Cor. v. 7.} the incestuous person; "because even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; therefore," says he, "let us keep the feast, not with the old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." The feast, of which the Apostle speaks, is clearly that of the Eucharist, the memorial of Christ our Passover sacrificed for us; it was from this feast, therefore, that the unclean Corinthian was expelled. And this was the grand privilege, from which loose Christians were excluded in the following ages. They were indeed deprived of all conversation with communicants as well as of the Sacrament itself; for it was just, that there should be a visible distinction betwixt those that were thought worthy of this heavenly feast and those that were not. And yet, for some time after they were re-admitted to the company of the communicants, and even to join with them in the most solemn prayers, and to be present at the administration of the Eucharist, they were not permitted to receive it themselves: so that, in a word, the loss of the Eucharist for a time was the main penalty that the Church inflicted on the most scandalous sinners; and the restoring of themselves to the Eucharist was the end which they had in view, and for the sake of which they submitted to such long and severe penances.

3. The ends and reasonableness of excommunication will easily appear in relation to the person on whom it was inflicted. St. Paul tells us what these were, when he ordered the incestuous person to be delivered to Satan, "for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit might be saved in the day of the Lord." Here are two ends mentioned in respect to the offender.

CHAP.
IV.
The regard
paid of old
to the Eu-
charist best
explains
excommu-
nication.

¹ Cor. v. 7.
⁸.

¹ Cor. v. 5.

C H A P.
IV.

The benefit
intended to
the offender
by excom-
munication.

1 Cor. iv.
18, 19.

1 Cor. v.
2—6.

2 Cor. vii.
5—7.

(1.) The first immediate end was “the destruction of the flesh.” It is evident, that by ‘flesh’ the Apostle means the corruptions of nature; for these only we are industriously to destroy in ourselves and in other men. The prevailing corruptions in this Corinthian were, his abominable lust in using his father’s wife as if she had been his own, and his pride and insolence. For it is evident, that the incestuous person, being wealthy, had raised a party in the Church of Corinth; and by the strength thereof hoped to protect himself from the censure of the Apostle. It is plain from St. Paul’s words, that some of the Christians at Corinth were “puffed up” or ‘swollen’ with a spirit of faction; and it is as evident what this party aimed at, namely, that this incestuous wretch should be continued in communion in spite of the Apostle and his authority; which he expresses in these words, “Ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.” And he further tells them on this occasion, “their glorying is not good.” It is plain, that the Apostle was under some apprehensions, lest the offender and his party should make a head against discipline, and that many of them would not abstain from the company of the incestuous person, when he was delivered to Satan; and this is fairly intimated to us in those words, “When we were come into Macedonia, our flesh had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Nevertheless God comforted us by the coming of Titus; when he told us your earnest desire, your mourning, your fervent mind towards me; so that I rejoiced the more.” In which words the Apostle lets us know his fear and concern, lest the sentence, which he had ordered to be passed, should rather provoke than reclaim the incestuous person and his party; and his great pleasure and satisfaction to hear, that the discipline exercised against this offender had produced its desired effects. If the Apostle had sat tamely down under those discouragements, and concluded that, by undertaking to excommunicate this offender, he should only expose his own authority, he had by this means cherished and inflamed the lust and pride of this great man; therefore he takes heart, and uses the rod of his authority; he commands him to be delivered to Satan “for the destruction of the flesh,”

that is, to be turned out of the Church-doors, and so abandoned to his proper master, who had kindled the fire of lust and pride in his heart: for he well knew, that, if any thing could mortify and humble him, it must be the use of that discipline which our Saviour in such cases had directed to be exercised; that, if the consideration of his being discarded by the Apostle and the Church, and declared in so solemn a manner to be a son and slave of Satan and unworthy of the communion of Christian people, would not cool his lust and vain-glory, he might justly be esteemed to be desperately bad and incurably wicked. This was the last means that Christ had prescribed to be used for the reclaiming hardened sinners; and it is evident that it had its effect on this impure Corinthian: for we are assured that he who had so numerous and formidable a party combined together, as it should seem, on purpose to screen him from the severe sentence, which the Apostle had decreed against him; yet, when he saw the Apostle firm in his resolution, and the Church of Corinth dutifully complying with St. Paul and forsaking his company, he was melted down to such a degree of humility and so deep a sense of his sin, that St. Paul saw occasion, in the next Epistle that he wrote, to desire his Christian brethren to "comfort him, lest he should be swallowed up of grief." ^{2 Cor. ii. 7.} Thus were the lust and pride of this offender reduced, and the corruptions of his flesh destroyed, by this wholesome discipline. And I must here add, that when men by excommunication had attained to a true insight of their own misery, and submitted to such penance as the judge thought proper or necessary, those fastings and outward humiliations were very effectual means to abate the swellings of pride and lust, to destroy or mortify the flesh: and an excellent writer^b has shewed, that the ancients did take this to be the meaning of the Apostle in this place.

(2.) The other and final end of this discipline was, that "the spirit might be saved in the day of the Lord:" and this clearly follows from the former, for the destruction of the flesh is the salvation of the soul; the consequence from this is very plain, that excommunication was never intended for the de-

^b [i. e. Dr. Nathaniel Marshall.] Primitive Church. Printed 1714. [p. See The Penitential Discipline of the 48. Ed. Oxford, 1844.]

CHAP. IV. struction of the soul nor of the body, but only of the vicious corrupt lusts and inclinations, which are the greatest obstruction to our future happiness. Excommunication is by the vulgar called a ‘ curse ;’ and the Forms of Excommunication, used in later ages, gave much occasion for this false notion^c. Christ was so far from intending it as a curse, that He designed it to be only a correction, whereby to reduce offending Christians to their duty, and by this means to save their souls. It was indeed a curse, if men continued obstinate under it ; but then they made it so to themselves. It was indeed meant for the destruction of the flesh, that is, of all evil habits and desires ; and when St. Paul wishes “ anathema to them that love not our Lord Jesus Christ^d,” it is very rational to believe, that He means no more than what He here expresses by “ the destruction of the flesh ;” and when primitive Bishops in Council pronounced anathema against heretics, they may very fairly be taken in the same sense.

It is sufficient to give one instance of those damnatory Forms from the *Textus Roffensis*, *apud Spelman*. in *Glossario, voce Excommunicatio*. Ex auctoritate Dei Omnipotentis, Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti, et sanctorum Canonum, Sanctæque et intemeratae Virginis Dei Genitricis Mariae, atque omnium cœlestium Virtutum, Angelorum — Patriarcharum, — atque omnium simul Sanctorum et Electorum Dei, Excommunicamus et anathematizamus hunc—N. et a liminibus Sanctæ Dei Ecclesiæ sequestramus, ut æternis suppliciis cruciandus manciperetur cum Dathan et Abiron—et sicut aquâ ignis extinguitur, sic extinguitur lucerna ejus in secula seculorum, nisi resipuerit et ad sanctificationem venerit, Amen. Maledicat illum Deus Pater—Filius—Spiritus Sanctus. Maledicat illum Sancta Crux—Maledicat illum Sancta Dei Genitrix—omnes Angeli—Maledicat illum Patriarcharum et Prophetarum laudabilis numerus,—Joannes præcursor et Baptista Christi—Sanctus Petrus et Sanctus Paulus, Andreas — omnes Sancti.—Maledicant illum cœli et terra—Maledictus sit ubique fuerit, sive in domo, sive in agro, sive in viâ, sive in semitâ, sive in silvâ, sive in aquâ, sive in ecclesiâ. Maledictus sit vivendo, moriendo, manducando, bibendo, esurendo, sitiendo, jejunando, dormitando, dormiendo, vigilando, ambulando, stan-

do, sedendo, jacendo, operando, quiescendo, mingendo, cacando, flebotmando. Maledictus sit in totis viribus corporis,—intus et exterius,—in capillis, in cerebro, in vertice, in temporibus, in fronte, in auriculis, in superciliis, in oculis, in genis, in maxillis, in naribus, in dentibus mordacibus, in labris, sive molibus, in labiis, in gutture, in humeris, in harmis, in brachiis, in manibus, in digitis, in pectore, in corde, et omnibus interioribus stomacho tenus, in renibus, in inguinibus, in femore, in genitalibus, in coxis, in genibus, in cruribus, in pedibus, in articulis, et in unguibus—in totis compagibus membrorum, a vertice capitis usque ad plantam pedis, non sit in eo sanitas. Maledicat illum Christus Filius Dei vivi toto Suæ majestatis imperio, et insurgat adversus eum Cœlum cum omnibus Virtutibus, quæ in eo moventur, ad damnandum eum, nisi pœnituerit et ad satisfactionem venerit, Amen, Fiat, Fiat, Amen. [Spelman adds, “ Hæ excommunicationum formulæ sequuntur emendationes legum, quas Gulielmus Conquestor edidit, in lib. vocato *Textus Roffensis*, MS. et videntur sub eo ipso ævo conditæ; quia in superioribus nusquam, quod scio, reperitur beatæ Virginis Mariæ invocatio.” Ed. Lond. 1664.]

^c Heb. בְּרִיךְ the same with ‘destruction,’ or ‘anathema,’ 1 Cor. xvi. 22.

By denying to excommunicated persons the Sacrament, C H A P.
IV.
 which is the Bread of Life, and the Cup of the New Covenant,
 the primitive Church might seem at first to deny them one
 principal means of salvation: but it is to be remembered,
 that though the Eucharist be an earnest of eternal life to
 honest and regular Christians, yet that "they, who eat and
 drink it unworthily, eat and drink damnation to themselves." Eucharist,
no benefit
to ill men.
 It was therefore an act of mercy as well as justice to with-
 hold the Sacrament from them, who by their notorious
 wicked works were enemies to the Cross of Christ; it was
 a just punishment to deprive them of a privilege, which they
 had so greatly abused; it was a mercy to refuse them that,
 which if they continued to receive, they would thereby
 increase their guilt, and render themselves three times more
 the children of the devil than they were before. The Eucha-
 rist is a benefit to them only, who keep themselves free from
 the great offence, from gross wilful sin; to them who are
 guilty of scandalous damnable sins it is certainly poison, and
 hastens and seals their destruction; therefore the Priest, who
 drives the profane communicant from the Altar, performs the
 part of a faithful physician in forbidding that to his patient,
 which he believes would prove certain death to him.

Even the long and tedious penances, which were of old enjoined to excommunicated persons, were only proofs of the faithful tenderness of the primitive Pastors toward the souls of their people. Divines of late years have laboured to prove that repentance imports nothing but an act of the mind; and it is true, that that repentance, which fits grown men for Baptism, does imply no more than a mere change of our resolution; though this too must be openly professed before the Church, and this is that repentance, which our Saviour and His Apostles and St. John Baptist spake of in the Gospel. But that repentance, which is required of Christians, who have fallen from grace and run into habits of vice or acts of very grievous sin, is of another sort; and was believed by the guides and Fathers of the Apostolic age to import outward austerities, frequent fastings, and a long course of humiliation in public as well as private, as they sufficiently shewed by their constant practice. And it is to no purpose to argue, that the word in the original Greek carries no such

The long
penances
very bene-
ficial.

C H A P. IV. signification ; for it is certain there is not any great body of men in the world, but that they take some particular word in a sense quite different from what it commonly bears. And since the most primitive Church took the word to denote what we commonly call ‘penance,’ therefore we have reason to believe, that, when St. Paul speaks of some at Corinth

2 Cor. xii. ult. “that had not repented of the uncleanness which they had committed’ his meaning was, that they had not openly and solemnly humbled themselves in the face of the congregation for their crimes. For Tradition is the only certain method we have of understanding such words, as are not expressly

Rev. i. 10; Jude xii. unfolded in the Scripture, as ‘Lord’s-day,’ ‘love-feast,’ or ‘feast of charity,’ ‘enlightening^e,’ and several others ; and if we will not in this case be content to accept of such light as Tradition affords, we must for ever wander in the dark. And I fear they are guilty of the greatest cruelty to the souls of men, who endeavour to represent this outward part of repentance needless and superfluous. It is clear to every observing eye, that Christians of this age, that are well-meaning and in some measure religiously-disposed, are perpetually running round in a circle of sinning and ‘repenting,’ as they call it. They often run into great excesses, and sin grievously against God and man ; they confess their sins to God, and for some hours or days perhaps they are serious and retired, and then come to the Sacrament, and think all is well, till they run into the same or other vices ; and then they repeat their confessions and short humiliations, and so are perpetually wheeling about, without ever coming one point nearer to the centre, that is, a constant steady obedience. Nay, many conclude all this to be more than is necessary, they reserve their repentance for the last work of their lives. For they have been taught to believe that it

consists only in a change of the mind ; and they are willing to suppose, that it is therefore a thing to be dispatched in a few moments and by virtue of one single effort of their will : and if they happen to recover from that sickness, which brought them into a necessity of resolving to amend their lives, they soon find that they are the same men they were before, and that they continue to wallow in the same mire ; and by this

^e Heb. vi. 4, where to be “enlightened” signifies to be ‘baptized.’

means it comes to pass, that we very seldom in this age see CHAP.
an example of sincere repentance. There are, God be thanked, IV.
good numbers of men that do tolerably well preserve their
innocence; but they who are once engaged in habits of sin
do very seldom, if at all, get free from that thraldom. And
the true reason of it I take to be this, that Christians have
lost the true notion of perfect repentance for sins after
Baptism, which the primitive Church did justly believe to
consist in a long course of fasting, praying, confessing openly
in the Church, deplored and bewailing former sins and trans-
gressions, in avoiding that company and other temptations
which were the occasions of those sins, and in the frequent
practice of the contrary virtues and duties, until the Penitent
was grown as ready and expert in every good word and work,
as he had formerly been in his vices and follies. This was
the “repentance to salvation, never to be repented of,” which
the Apostles and primitive Fathers required of those Christians
who had sinned with a high hand. We are sure this was the
notion of repentance, which prevailed among the best and
earliest Christians, from those words of the angel to Hermas^f
in the book called Pastor; which is allowed by the most
learned men to have been written before the Apostles were
all dead: “‘Do you think,’ says the angel, ‘that the sins of
those who repent are forthwith blotted out? No; but he that
is a penitent ought to afflict his own soul, and to humble
himself in every respect, and full oft to undergo many and
various hardships; and when he has endured all things that
are enjoined him, then perchance He that made him and all
things may be moved by His own compassion toward him.’”
It was indeed difficult to perform; but, when accomplished,
the Penitent himself had reason to acknowledge the wisdom
and goodness of the Bishop, who had laid this injunction
upon him; for such severity is the truest mercy. And if we
consider what hath succeeded instead of this true primitive
repentance in the Church of Rome, we shall see nothing but

^f Numquid ergo, ait [Angelus], protinus putas aboleri delicta eorum, qui agunt pœnitentiam? Non proinde continuo: sed oportet eum, qui agit pœnitentiam, affligere animam suam, et humilem animo se præstare in omni negotio, et vexationes multas variasque

perferre; quumque percessus fuerit omnia, quæ illi instituta fuerint, tunc forsitan, Qui eum creavit et Qui formavit universa, commovebitur erga eum clementiâ Suâ. [Lib. iii. Similit. vii.]

C H A P.
IV.

some sorry remains of it, mixed with modern superstitions; in others, nothing but inward sorrow and compunction, of which the man's own conscience is the only judge under God.

Excommu-ni-cation ne-cessary to pre-serve men from the infec-tion of vice.

(4.) The end and reasonableness of excommunication is very apparent in regard to other Christians. For certainly it was enough to damp the lusts and passions of moderate sinners, to see what shame they must take to themselves, what sharp penances they must undergo, in order to reconcile themselves to God and the Church, if they were guilty of such crimes as deserved excommunication; and therefore by sometimes passing this sentence on notorious offenders, others were taught to hear and fear and not to act presumptuously. And it is certain, that it was chiefly by the prudent use of this discipline the primitive Church became the best school of virtue, and raised men to higher degrees of holiness and purity than any society of men that ever yet appeared in the world. And the great decay of Christian piety in later ages must be imputed chiefly to the neglect or abuse of it. And this brings me to the last and melancholic head of discourse, viz.

Great pru-dence ne-cessary for the ad-minis-tration of it.

V. The corruptions, under which excommunication has fallen. The primitive discipline, as above described, could not in the eye of reason be very lasting, without a constant miracle or somewhat very like it. The persons, who had the administration of it, when it was in its perfection, I mean, the Bishops of the Apostolic age, must have been in a great measure free from the common infirmities of human nature. Our Saviour calls seven of them, "the angels of His seven Churches in Asia;" and it seems plain, that they and their brethren must have been somewhat more than common men; otherwise they could never have managed so great a trust to the honour of their Master and themselves. There were two things necessary to this end; the first was, never to pass this sentence on any but such as did highly deserve it, either by their own confession, or according to the vogue of the main body of the people among whom they lived, and who were concerned to avoid their company when they were excommunicated; the other was, to pass this sentence with an equal hand, without any respect of persons or consideration of any quality in him that was arraigned, without regard to

any other point but only this, whether he be guilty or not guilty. It was scarce to be expected, that so many thousand Bishops as were necessary for the government of the Christian Church should for many ages keep strictly to these rules ; and alas ! it is but too evident they did not.

CHAP.
IV.

1. The first corruption of excommunication was the making the Ecclesiastical Court distinct from the assembly for worship. While the whole affairs were transacted in the face of the Church, and the people were satisfied of the equity of the proceedings by being present at them, there was no room for any partiality or indirect practices ; but when the Bishop held his assembly for worship at one time or place and his court for discipline at another, this gave opportunity for all manner of corruption. This therefore I reckon the first abuse, if not in time, of which I am not very sure, yet in the importance of it.

2. A second corruption was, that penances were carried to a most excessive height, so that it was not credible that the generality of offenders, especially they of estates and quality, should ever submit to them. The Penitent was forbid to commence a suit in the Temporal Court^s, or to follow any trade or worldly business ; nay, he must be shorn^h and go into a monastery, or else never expect absolution.

3. The grossest abuse of all was, commutation of penance, or giving money or land for pious uses, thereby to purchase redemption from the severities mentioned under the last head ; there are some instances of this in the sixth centuryⁱ.

4. To this end Absolution was given, before penance was enjoined. To pay for absolution had been simony ; but to redeem penance with a sum of money was not. Therefore the Penitent, on his first appearance, commonly gave security, that he would submit to the judge ; upon this he was forthwith received to communion, and afterwards did penance or paid for not doing it.

^a Decret. Pap. Leonis, 22, 23, 24,
apud Justellum.

^b Concil. Agathense, c. 15. Binius,
tom. iii. p. 714. Concil. Barcinon,
c. 6. tom. iv. p. 192. Concil. Tolet. iii.
c. 12. ibid., p. 504. Concil. Aurel. ibid.,
p. 190.

^c Concilia Landav. in Spelman.

Excommu-
nication
corrupted
by new
Ecclesiasti-
cal Courts.

By extra-
vagant pe-
nances.

By commu-
nations.

By absolv-
ing before
penance.

[Concil. Mag. Brit.] vol. i. p. 62. [Ed.
Lond. 1639. The instance given is
this ; "Rex Mouricus, accepto jugo
penitentiaæ, dedit quatuor villas pro
redemptione animæ suæ et pro anima
Cynetu, Ecclesiae Landaviæ, et in
manu Oudocei Episcopi et omnibus
suis successoribus, &c."]

CHAP.

IV.

By communicating penance or compounding for it; all which was a direct contradiction to the primitive method.

By repetition of penance and excommunication.

5. By this means a Penitent might be in actual communion, and receive the Sacrament, while he was doing his penance or compounding for it; all which was a direct contradiction to the primitive method.

6. Excommunication, penance, and reconciliation, were repeated as oft as the offender gave occasion; whereas but one repentance was allowed in the primitive Church. The Church of Spain^k opposed this in the sixth century, but to no purpose.

By Bishops leaving this business to others.

7. Bishops did in effect wholly leave the administration of excommunication and discipline to their Archdeacons or officials, who were to raise their fortunes by it. Advocates and Proctors made the Ecclesiastical Courts so like the Temporal, that they were distinguished only in name; and it is evident, they laboured hard to draw to themselves the cognizance of temporal causes; and the officials themselves, at last, were laymen.

By turning excommunication into a curse.

8. Yet to make their excommunications more terrible, they stuffed them full of curses contrary to the primitive manner, of which I have before given an account. Apostolical excommunication was designed for the destruction of the flesh, this for the damnation of the soul. Ancient penance was intended for the real amendment of the man and for his soul's health; very little regard was had to this in the new scheme of discipline.

Upon the whole, I am persuaded that the Church of Rome has not perverted any one institution of Jesus Christ more than this of excommunication; and, in doing this, hath in effect taken away the most powerful remedy against vice that God ever prescribed to men. For who can wonder, if the authority given by Christ to His Church, being so grossly abused, is now sunk into contempt?

I shall close this chapter by observing, that our doctrine is defective as well as our discipline, and that until the former be rectified the latter cannot be restored. It is plain that the foundation of all the primitive discipline was a firm belief, that the Eucharist was the most valuable blessing, the most saving and necessary Ordinance; and that to be deprived of it by a just sentence was the greatest punishment, to which a

^k Concil. Tolet. iii. c. 11. Bin., tom. iv. p. 505.

Christian was liable in this world ; and that in order to recover the benefit of it, the harshest penances and humiliations which the Church enjoined were patiently to be undergone. But now in this age, while we complain of the loss of discipline, we do not seem to employ our care sufficiently toward the re-establishing the foundation of it, that is, the doctrine of the necessity of frequently and constantly receiving the Sacrament ; by which means it comes to pass, that excommunication, which was formerly thought the greatest hardship, is now chosen by most Christians as the most safe and easy state. And I cannot see how it is possible to awake men to a sense of this truth, that by neglecting the Sacrament they neglect their own salvation, but by endeavouring to convince them that our Saviour in John vi. discourses of the Eucharist, and that we can nowhere eat the Flesh of the Son of Man but at the Lord's Table. It is evident, that the primitive Church grounded their doctrine of the necessity of the Sacrament on this place of Scripture ; and until we believe as the ancients did, our practice and discipline can never be like theirs.

CHAP. V.

OF PREPARATION FOR THE COMMUNION.

THE fuel, with which the ancient sacrifices were consumed,
Neh. x. 34; is in Scripture called a "wood-offering;" and for the same
xiiiij. 31.

reason the pious affections of the mind, that are required to make us good communicants, may justly be called an offering and sacrifice to God ; and, indeed, "a broken heart and contrite spirit" was by David called a "sacrifice of God," and it certainly remains so under the Gospel. The ancients do often speak of devotion, self-resignation, love, purity, and other virtues, as necessary ingredients of the Christian Sacrifice ; as things which make our external oblations come up with greater acceptance in the presence of God. The Jews of old hoped, as well as other people, by their sweet-scented cane^a and wood to render their sacrifice a more agreeable service. And we shall be wanting to our Sacrifice and ourselves, if we do not endeavour to present it with such inward qualities of mind as we know to be well-pleasing to our God and Saviour.

There are six things necessary to render us worthy communicants :

I. Baptism ;

II. The keeping our Baptism undefiled, or cleansing ourselves by repentance ;

III. The resolving, with God's grace, to keep ourselves pure and undefiled for the future ;

IV. A competent knowledge of the nature of the Eucharist ;

V. The receiving it with inward and outward reverence ;

VI. Self-examination.

Baptism
necessary
in order to
the Eucha-
rist.

I. None ought to presume to come to the Lord's Table, until he have been first baptized : for no man is a member of

^a Isa. xliii. 23; Jer. vi. 20; Rev. xviii. 12. "Thyine wood," mentioned in the last text, is wood qualified by its sweet scent to give a perfume to the sacrifice.

the Church of Christ, that has not been washed with water CHAP.
V. in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost ; and the Eucharist is an ordinance, to which none can have a right but they who belong to this Body. Under the Jewish Law, Exod. xii. 48. no man was permitted to eat the Passover, until he had first been circumcised ; and as the Passover was the type of the Eucharist, so was Circumcision of Baptism. Therefore our Saviour first bids the Apostles to “disciple all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,” Matt. xxviii. 19, 20. and then afterwards, to “teach them to do all things whatsoever He had commanded them ;” and of those things, which Christ commanded, the Eucharist is a great and principal one. It is therefore evident, that our Saviour intended men to be baptized, before they receive the other Sacrament ; and St. Paul seems to teach us this doctrine, when he calls upon us to “draw near to God, having our bodies washed with clean water.” In the Communion we make our nearest approaches to God ; and therefore we must not dare to do this, until we have first been washed and cleansed by Baptism.

II. To render us worthy communicants, it is necessary,

1. Either that we should have preserved our Baptism undefiled ;

2. Or that we should by repentance cleanse ourselves from such defilements as we have contracted.

1. The most perfect preparation for the Communion is, to have kept our Baptism pure and undefiled ; that is, not to have been guilty of any gross error in faith or practice, since we were washed from our sins in Baptism. For the garment ^b preserved clean and pure, of which there is frequent mention in the New Testament and in ancient writers, was a figurative expression, by which they meant Baptism kept clear from the stains and pollutions of all grievous and presumptuous sin ; such as are in this condition are said to have kept Christ’s commandments^c, and therefore to have a right to the Tree of

^b Rev. iii. 4; xvi. 15; Jude 23. Ignat. ad Polycarp., c. 6. Constat., lib. viii. c. 6. Vide Clem. Recognit., lib. iv. c. 35. [— gratia Baptismi ; quam qui fuerit consecutus, tamquam vestimentum mundum, cum quo ei ingrediendum est ad cœnam Regis.]

^c Rev. xxii. 14. It is observable, that several good MSS. and some of

Baptism kept undefiled, the best preparation for the Euchrist;

the ancient Translators, instead of Ποιοῦντες τὰς ἐντολὰς αὐτοῦ, read πλάνυοντες τὰς στόλας αὐτῶν. See Mill *in loc.* the sense of both readings is the same ; for they only who have “done the commandments,” can be said to “have washed their robes,” or to “have kept them white and clean.”

CHAP. Life. For as “rivers of pure water” clearly signifies Baptism ;
V.
Rev. xxii. so the Tree of Life on each side of this river seems to represent
1, 2.

2 Esdras ii. “They are clothed in white, they have kept the commandment
40. 38. of the Lord ;” and such as these are said to be “sealed in the
feast of the Lord,” that is, in the Holy Communion ; the feast,
which is to be kept “with the unleavened bread of sincerity
and truth.” Now our Baptism may be preserved pure in two
respects ;

As to faith, (1.) As to faith : for it is the commandment of God, that we should believe on the Name of His Son Jesus Christ ; and it ought to be the spiritual care of Christians, that they be sound in the Faith. “This is the work of God,” says Christ, “that ye believe on Him Whom He hath sent.” And He says this with a particular regard to the Holy Eucharist ; for this was the Bread, of which He was speaking just before, and “which endures,” as to its effects, “unto everlasting life ;” and “which the Son of Man,” the Saviour of the world, “gives unto us.” This is the Bread, for which Christ exhorts the people to labour ; and when the people desired to know what that work or labour was, whereby they might gain this Bread, He plainly enough informs them that it chiefly consisted in sincerely believing Him to be the Messias. And this was indeed the greatest hardship, which these carnal Jews had to overcome. If they had been once fully convinced that He was indeed the Son of God, they would more easily have been prevailed upon to comply with Him in other particulars. The greatest labour of the men of that age was to shake off the prejudices which they conceived against Christ and His Gospel ; and this was indeed a labour. But we, God be praised, have been bred up in the knowledge of the Christian Religion, and therefore faith is not so hard a work to us as it was to them ; and therefore we are the more inexcusable, if in any point we depart from that Faith which was once delivered to the saints ; and he, who does so, defiles his Baptism, and is therefore, while he remains in that state, unfit for the Holy Sacrament. All Churches have the best of Creeds, I mean that which we call the Nicene, inserted into their Communion-Service ; and he who cannot join in

rehearsing this Creed, or saying a hearty Amen to it, he has CHAP.
V.
defiled his garment, and is not therefore fit to appear at the ——
Lord's Table.

(2.) But though our faith be very sincere and steady, yet And prac-
we cannot be said to have kept our Baptism undefiled, if we tice.
have been guilty of any great offence, any presumptuous sin,
by wilfully breaking any known commandment of God. As
Christ's Church or people is "cleansed by the washing of Fph. v. 26,
water by the Word," so it must continue "a glorious Church,
^{27.} not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but holy and without blemish," and as such be "presented to Him" at the last day; for it is certainly required of Christians, that they should "serve God in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life;" and they who do this, they alone are the most perfectly prepared for constantly receiving the Sacrament.

But then it is not any lesser sin that defiles our Baptism as [sic] makes us unfit to draw near to God. There are sins Sins of ne-
cessary infirmity do
not defile
Baptism;
of ignorance, which Christians commit for want of know-
ledge; and if the ignorance be such as we cannot help, then God will, through Christ Jesus, have compassion on us and forgive us, and continue us in His favour, if we do daily confess our sins, and in general beg His pardon for our secret unknown faults. The best of Christians do often in thought, word, or deed, transgress the strict rules of duty through the heat and hastiness of their nature, while perhaps they themselves do not perceive it, or do afterwards perfectly forget it. And whatever sins Christians do commit through such ignorance and surprise do not put them out of a state of salvation. These are sins of infirmity which cannot be avoided, and if the greatest saint on earth say that he hath no such sin he deceiveth himself; and if no man could keep his Baptism undefiled or be fit for the Communion, who lives in such sin, then it is certain that all have defiled their Baptism, and no man in the world could safely receive the Sacra-
ment; for "in many things" of this sort "we offend all."

Nay, there are sins, which do not proceed wholly from Nor all
ignorance, surprise, or infirmity, but are committed with a lesser
lesser degree of wilfulness and knowledge; which yet do not known sins,
as causeless
anger;
defile us to such a degree as to make us unworthy communicants. It is certain, that several of the Apostles were guilty

C H A P. of such a sin, just before our Saviour administered the **S-**
V. sacrament to them, I mean, of causeless anger ; “they had
Matt. xxvi. 8. indignation” against the pious woman, who poured a box of precious ointment on our Lord’s head ; yet He presently after gave them the Sacrament. They could not but see that what the woman did was well meant, and they were sensible that their Master was now going to die and had well deserved this honour to be done to Him ; yet there was a mixture of infirmity in it ; they were in a poor condition, and thought that the price of that ointment would have been better applied, if given in charity and alms-deeds. If our Saviour had judged such a sin as this to be a defilement of their Baptism, He would not forthwith have bid them eat that Bread and drink that Cup. The same may be said of a Christian, who hath been unawares overtaken with intemperance, or hath for want of thought or caution said somewhat which he knew to be false ; I mean, if he be in the main a sober honest man. For it would have been a rash judgment in any one to say, that if such a man should, in a few days after having committed such a fault, receive the Holy Sacrament, that he hath eat and drank his own damnation. It is true that every man ought to confess and humble himself under the hand of God for such lesser sins ; and so he must, if a sin committed through ignorance or surprise or any other infirmity do afterwards come to his knowledge ; but then, upon such confession and humiliation, the Christian still continues in a state of Baptismal purity, and is not to shut himself out from the Lord’s Table.

Nor lesser
injuries,
which did
not proceed
from ma-
lice.

If, indeed, by any untruth which we have unadvisedly spoken, or any sudden fit of anger we have been so far transported as that we have done any real wrong to our neighbour either in word or deed, we must not only confess it to God and beg His pardon, but we must by all means make satisfaction to the man whom we have wronged, and use all proper means to be reconciled to him : but if the injury we did him did not proceed from rooted malice and ill-will, this is no defilement of our Baptism ; nor does it render us unfit for the Sacrament, after we have once made our peace with the party whom we had wronged, or done what was reasonable on our parts in order to that end. This

we may learn from the directions which our Saviour gives us C H A P .
V.
Matt. v. 23. in this case ; “ If thou bring thy gift to the Altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught” of just complaint “against thee; leave there thy gift before the Altar, and go thy way ; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come, and offer thy gift.” Though the injury we have done were so far from being designed, that we neither intended to do it, when we actually did it, nor did ever since call it to our mind, until we are just offering our alms at the Altar in order to receive the Sacrament ; yet, if even then, upon a re-examination of our own hearts, we believe we have done hurt to another, we must not proceed to perform this holy duty, until we have done our part toward a reconciliation. But such offences as these should not make us absent ourselves from the Lord’s Table longer than is necessary for us in order to make satisfaction to our wronged neighbour. If we can that minute find him out and make friends with him, we may that same minute offer our gift and proceed to partake of the Holy Eucharist.

But there are four sorts of crimes, by which men do defile their Baptism, and render themselves unworthy of the Sacrament.

The first is apostasy, or a falling off from the Christian Religion to idolatry, Judaism, or infidelity. Men in this condition are said to have “ denied the Faith,” to have committed “the sin unto death,” to “sin wilfully after they have received the knowledge of the truth.” This sin does not consist in denying Christ, as Peter did, with the mouth only, not with the heart, for fear of present punishment; but in a wilful departure from the Church to heathenish or Jewish superstition, a turning from the Holy Commandment to wallow in the mire of unbelief: and the Apostle tells us that such as these “cannot be renewed to repentance, there remains no more Sacrifice for such sin: it had been better for such men, if they had never known the way of Truth.” Such as these were, in the primitive times, once for all cut off from the Church; and though they pretended to repent, yet they were never again received to Communion. They were guilty of this sin in a lesser degree, who brought in “damnable heresies,” or left the Church to follow heretical or schismatical leaders: for as heresy and schism shuts men out

Apostates
defile their
Baptism,
and can
never fit
themselves
for the Eu-
charist.

CHAP. of the kingdom of heaven, so it likewise cuts them off from
 V.—God's Church; but then these latter upon their repentance
 were always received to Communion.

**Presumptuous acts
 of sin defile
 our Baptism, and
 make us
 unfit for the
 Eucharist;** 2. They were looked upon, in the primitive Apostolical ages, to have defiled their Baptism and to be unworthy of the Communion, who were guilty of blasphemy, perjury, idolatry, murder, robbery, adultery, incest, fornication, bearing false witness, and the like. He, for instance, who had been guilty of one act of idolatry in sacrificing to false gods, was judged thereby to have defiled his Baptism, and therefore was forbid the use of the Sacrament for a long time together, according to the degree of his crime: so the incestuous person was cast out from among the Christians at Corinth, as unfit to join in keeping the feast. The sins above-mentioned are of so deep a dye, so full of guilt and horror, that it is not to be believed that any man can commit them, who has not hardened himself by looseness of principle or by training himself up in lesser sins. They, who offended in such great points as these, were always esteemed to sin with a high hand, and therefore to be utterly unfit for the Communion.

**And so do
 all habits of
 sin.** 3. And so were they, who allowed themselves in any habit of known wilful sin; though drunkenness, lying, or lesser acts of injustice, very rarely committed by some sudden accident, do not presently stain our Baptism to that degree, as to deprive us of the benefit of the Sacrament; yet these or any other sins, however small they are or may seem to be in themselves, if they grow into a settled habit or custom, do render us unworthy guests at the Lord's Table; and that sin is grown into a custom, which a man commits as often as he has an opportunity or temptation to it. No man is a drunkard or liar, because he has, now and then, at the distance of several years or many months, committed some few acts contrary to strict sobriety and integrity; but he only who is often, if not for the most part, guilty of transgressing his duty in these particulars, when he may do it without running any hazard to his worldly interests. He that embraces any sin so often as he can conveniently, he shews himself to be under the dominion of that sin, and therefore cannot be a servant to God. All habitual sins must be exceeding offensive in the

sight of God, not only because they are frequently repeated, C H A P. V.
 but because the sinner shews that he offends with the full consent and approbation of his own will. An honest Christian may sometimes be betrayed into a foolish or even a wicked action through want of courage or through the great strength of some temptation ; but he, who weekly, daily, or hourly, breaks a law of God, must certainly allow himself in that sin ; for a very indifferent degree of care and watchfulness would be sufficient to restrain him from running perpetually into the same error and excess. He therefore, who goes on constantly in the same road of vice, gives a full proof that he is under no check of conscience but has sold himself to do evil ; and for this reason ought to look on himself as one that has perfectly broken the yoke and burst the bond of God's laws, as one that has polluted his Baptismal garment and is therefore altogether unfit to appear at the Lord's Table. And though he be not arrived at a perfect habit, so as upon every opportunity to swallow the bait, yet if he does it commonly or frequently, and especially if he does it with ease and greediness, without any remorse or reluctance, his state is very dangerous ; he is come to a habit, though not to a perfect habit, and therefore ought in justice to his own soul to keep at a distance from that Heavenly Bread, which belongs not to those who wallow in the mire of vice.

All that were guilty of such presumptuous acts of sin, as were mentioned under the last head but one, and all that were come to a habit of lesser sins were obliged by the discipline of the primitive Church to abstain from the holy Sacrament, unless they could hide and conceal their vices from the eyes of their Pastors and fellow-Christians. And though this discipline be now grown too much out of use, yet unless men in this condition do so judge and condemn themselves as to forbear the Communion, they will one day find that the receiving of the Eucharist, while they are in a state of thralldom to their sins, will greatly inflame their accounts and expose them to the just judgment of God.

4. Nay, the Christian that has knowingly and wilfully committed an act of sin that is not in itself of the most heinous sort, as suppose a studied contrived lie, or beastly drunkenness, or of furious anger without cause, especially if All wilful sin does for a while render men unfit for the Eucharist.

CHAP. V.—it carried him so far as to do some notable very grievous hurt to his neighbour either in body, reputation, or estate, ought to look on his Baptism as so far stained or blemished by it, as that he ought not in a few days or weeks to come to make his appearance before God at this heavenly feast; for all wilful sin leaves a blot upon the soul, and renders it unfit for so holy an ordinance, until it be wiped off by a hearty contrition and humiliation toward God, and satisfaction to them whom he hath wronged. And he who thinks light of any one sinful action, when it is done with the whole consent of the will, is in great danger of running into a habit, and plunging himself into the sink of vice. And this is especially true of those sinful actions, which have a mixture of several evil ingredients: as, for instance, if the lie were forged with a design to slander or abuse our neighbour, and make him look more odious in the eye of the world than ourselves, or if he did by the lie intend any real damage or mischief to another; then, it is not only a contrived falsehood, but it is likewise compounded of malice and pride, which are most grievous sins, and render the action very hateful in the sight of God. So, likewise, that drunkenness, which is committed on the Lord's day, and which not only for the time deprives a man of his reason, but keeps him from the public worship of God and is a profanation of the times set apart for His service, this drunkenness is not only a bare sin of intemperance, but a robbing God of what is due to Him; and these sins do come up to these high crimes and misdemeanours, mentioned under the second head, at least, to some of them; however, they are great defilements of Baptismal purity, and put us into a condition very unfit to make our nearest approaches to God in the Holy Eucharist.

If we have defiled Baptism, repentance only can restore us to the use of the Eucharist.

2. If we have defiled our Baptism by any of these sins, we must cleanse ourselves by repentance, before we presume to receive the Holy Sacrament. Now it is allowed by all, that repentance cannot be true and acceptable, unless it proceed from a contrite or bruised heart and wounded spirit, that is, from a mind filled with grief for our having offended a good and just God and provoked His displeasure against ourselves. It is agreed on all hands, that repentance must be accompanied with a confession of our sins to God and a most

hearty humiliation of ourselves in His sight and earnest CHAP.
prayers for pardon ; but, above all, it is to be observed, that ————— V.
repentance chiefly consists in a sincere resolution against all
sin for the time to come, in a change of mind ; a turning
from vice to virtue, from Satan to God. But there are three
circumstances, in which the repentance of Christians now-a-
days comes short of that, which was practised in the primitive
Church, and which probably the Apostles themselves taught
the first Christians.

(1.) The first of these particulars was, frequent fasting, and abstinence from all the most innocent pleasures of life. This was the ancient method, by which they who were touched with a sense of their sins expressed their inward grief; not by forbearing flesh and eating fish and using other agreeable meats and drinks, as the Papists do, but living often for several days together on bread and water and always using a very spare and coarse diet. All the most pious ancient Christians did indeed frequently exercise themselves in fasting and prayer; but it was required of those who were in a state of repentance for any vicious habit or scandalous sin, that they should afflict their souls in this manner more than other Christians. This they looked upon as part of that “re-^{2 Cor. x. 6.}venge,” which the Apostle threatens to the offenders at Corinth, and commends them at another place for having used, to ^{2 Cor. vii.}testify their indignation against themselves for their own sins ^{11.} and follies. As Fasting is a duty, which our Saviour and His Apostles have taught us both by their examples and doctrine; so, certainly, the most proper season for using it is, when we are humbling ourselves under the hand of God for our sins and working ourselves into a hatred and abhorrence of them. And the truth is, men scarce seem to be in earnest, when they pretend to be sorry for their sins and to resolve against them, but do not bring forth fruits worthy of repentance, give no proof of their real displeasure against their own wicked lusts and desires by mortifying and chastising of them. The primitive Christians had greater reason to hate and abhor sin than the men of this age; for they considered it as a thing that must cost them not only much anguish and grief of mind in order to wipe off the guilt and eternal punishment due to it, but for which their bodies too must

C H A P. suffer, before they could hope for pardon and forgiveness.
V.

But the repentance now in fashion is so very easy, that it is no wonder, if men are under no dread of it and do with little or no concern run on in a course of sin, when they have hopes of making their peace with God at last by a few good thoughts and pious expressions. True primitive repentance directed men to lay fines upon their estates as well as punishments on their bodies. They did especially take care, that what they saved by fasting should be laid out in works of piety and charity^d; and a repentance, which cost them so dear, was one proper means to make them out of love with those sins which occasioned so much expense. But such cheap notions of repentance, as now prevail among Christians, can do very little toward the amending of our lives; when to bewail our sins and fetch some sighs over them is thought as effectual as all the fastings and alms of the primitive Apostolical Penitents. And, indeed, Christians are now permitted without control to spend all their bodily strength and estates in the service of sin; and scarce ever think of repenting, until their bodies are so weak as to be disabled for fasting, and their worldly condition so low, that there is nothing left for the poor and needy.

With public confession in the face of the Church.

James v.
16.

(2.) In the primitive Church, they, who had committed such sins as rendered them unfit for the Sacrament, were obliged to confess those sins, not only in private to God, but publicly in the face of the congregation, before they could be again admitted to Communion. Thus they did in the most perfect manner comply with the advice of the Apostle in “confessing their sins one to another.” This most pious practice of the ancient Church was, in following ages, greatly corrupted and turned into a private confession to the Priest alone; but while the primitive discipline prevailed, and men were obliged to confess and bewail their crimes in the public assemblies, this was a mighty restraint to vice. And though the restoring of this excellent discipline be a thing rather to

^d Τὴν περισσείαν ὑμῶν τῆς νηστείας πέντην ἐπιχορηγεῖν. Ap. Constt., lib. v. c. xix. Illo die, quo jejunabis—computata quantitate cibi, quem cæteris diebus comedetur eras, repones, et et das bis viduae, pupillo, aut inopi, &c.—Herm. Past., lib. iii. Sim. v. § iii.

[Καὶ ἐν ἡμέρᾳ, ἢ νηστεύεις, ἀρκέσθητι ὅρτω καὶ λαχάνοις καὶ ὕδατι, εὐχαριστῶν τῷ Θεῷ· συμψήφισας δὲ τὴν ποστήτηα τῆς δαπάνης τοῦ ἀρίστου, οὐδὲ ἴμελλες ἐσθίειν κατ’ ἔκεινην τὴν ἡμέραν, δὸς χήρᾳ ἢ ὄρφανῳ ἢ στερομένῳ—.]

be wished than expected, and it cannot in reason be desired, CHAP.
V. that any particular offender should submit to a practice that is now wholly laid aside (except in some special cases, where the laws require it); yet certainly all Christians, who are really affected with a sense of their sins and do in earnest desire to amend them, cannot take a more proper course than to confess all their wilful presumptuous sins, how secretly soever they were committed, to all their serious Christian friends in their conversation with them. The shame, with which such a confession is attended, will be a great check to a man in the whole course of his life. I am persuaded, that every man is in conscience bound to comply with that exhortation of the Apostle; and he, that is of the same judgment, and therefore resolves to confess all his great offences to others, will be under a fear and awe, how he commits such sins as will oblige him to take shame to himself in the eyes of men.

(3.) The repentance of the primitive Christians was long; And this
repentance
was very
long. it continued for several years together. No man, who had been guilty of grievous sins, was received into communion, after he had fasted and confessed his sin and humbled himself twice or thrice in the public assembly; but he was obliged constantly to attend the religious worship of the Church, and that too in the most humble manner, standing at the Church-doors, begging the prayers of the Clergy and people, and this for several years together, according as the Penitent was more or less careful to give real proof of his conversion. And, in a word, no man was restored to communion, until he had by his behaviour given all possible demonstration of his sincerity; and until it appeared by a long trial, that he did indeed "keep himself from his iniquity," and refrain those lusts and passions, which had formerly got the dominion over him. And it was this long continued state of humiliation, which then went under the name of 'repentance'; this they esteemed to be that "<sup>Psalm xviii.
23.</sup>re-pentance to salvation, not to be repented of," as St. Paul expresses it. And there is just cause to fear, that one great cause why repentance now-a-days so seldom ends in a real amendment, is, that it is so short and hasty. In the Church of Rome, repentance is thought to consist in having a sorrow

CHAP. V. for sin and not resolving to commit it again^e, in confessing it to God and the Priest, and performing some such trifling penance as he enjoins ; and all this may be done in a few days, or perhaps in four-and-twenty hours, nay, in a few minutes upon a death-bed. And though the Church of Rome threatens the sinner that does not do his penance here on earth with a terrible penance indeed to be done in Purgatory, except he buy it off by purchasing an indulgence or by some other very expensive means ; yet there is just cause to believe, that few even among the Papists are afraid of this imaginary fire. With us, sorrow, confession to God alone, (except in some special cases,) and a change of mind, are justly said to be true repentance, with satisfaction to men, if we have wronged them. But I conceive in this we are defective, that we do not consider fasting, alms-deeds, outward humiliation, and public confession, as very requisite, if not necessary, to produce and give an evidence of this real change of mind ; and, above all, we are short in this, that we do not insist on the necessity of the Penitent's giving a sufficient proof of his inward conversion by his outward carriage and demeanour for a considerable length of time, before he be admitted to the Lord's Table : in a word, because we make the whole of repentance to consist in one or few actions of the mind, which may be performed in a few days or hours ; whereas the primitive Church looked on it as a long state or course of sorrow, humiliation, confession, not to be ended, until it did by experience appear that the offender was indeed reformed and fit for the Holy Sacrament. It is upon the whole evident, that the festival or wedding-garment, in which we are to come to this marriage-feast, is either our Baptismal purity or a sincere repentance that has approved itself by actual amendment.

This was
then the
only long
prepara-
tion.

This was the only long and laborious preparation for the Eucharist that was practised in the primitive Church. As for all others, who were not in a state of repentance, they did constantly attend at the Lord's Table every Lord's day at the furthest, and not a few of them every day; therefore a 'week's preparation,' for the Holy Communion would have

^e Conc. Trident., Sess. xiv. cap. iv. Contritionem imperfectam, quæ At- trito dicitur—si voluntatem peccandi excludat—donum Dei esse, &c.

sounded very oddly in the primitive times. It is certain a year's preparation was not thought sufficient for heinous offenders; and as for those, who needed not this repentance, but had only sins of common infirmity or a single act of lesser sin to confess to God and beg pardon for, these were (if not always fit to receive) yet without any long or painful exercises, by their daily devotions and humiliations, sufficiently prepared for these holy mysteries.

And lest any one should think that I am too rigorous in those rules of repentance, which I have taken from the primitive Church; and does imagine that a man may be a worthy communicant, though he have committed gross sins, upon much easier terms than those above-mentioned, I desire it may be considered,

1. That, by receiving the Sacrament, men do make the most solemn profession of their being Christians. He, who pretends to eat the Flesh and drink the Blood of Christ, must at the same time profess to dwell in Christ and that Christ dwells in Him: but now the practice of any wilful sin is utterly inconsistent with this profession; for "he who names the Name of Christ must depart from all iniquity," and, who-ever would "draw near to God, must have his heart sprinkled from an evil conscience."

2. It is evident, that the Eucharist was intended to be a means of our continuing in covenant and communion with God and Christ Jesus and the Holy Spirit; but now it is the highest presumption for any man that allows himself in any known sin, to pretend to communicate with those most pure Divine Persons; for what communion hath light with darkness?

3. Whoever receives the Eucharist ought at the same time to present himself, together with the whole Church, a living sacrifice to God; but the offering of a sinful soul or body to God cannot be a sacrifice acceptable to Him, it can never be a reasonable service.

4. The very nature of a sacrifice requires, that all, who assist at the offering it or the feasting on it, should cleanse themselves from all wilful defilements and pollutions, so far as it is in their own power; both priests and people, under the Law of Moses, were forbid under severe penalties to offer

This re-pentance necessary;

Because in the Eucha-rist we pro-fess a pure religion,

^{2 Tim. ii. 19.}

^{Heb. x. 22.}

And to be in covenant and com-munion with God,

And pre-sent our-selves to God.

The nature of Sacrifice requires purity.

^{Lev. x. 1—8; Numb. xix. 13;}

CHAP. or feed on any sacrifice, before they had freed themselves
V. from all outward impurity. Now the sacrifices of the Law

Lev. xv. 31; vii. 20. were types and figures of the spiritual Sacrifice of the Gospel; and the washings and other purgations used by the Jews were shadows of that inward purity, which Christ requires of them who worship God in spirit and truth. St. Paul charges them who had been unworthy partakers of the Sacrament, as “ guilty of the Body and Blood of the Lord;” so that if we receive the Sacrament with hands defiled with blood and violence or unlawful lust, with mouths polluted with profane unchristian discourse, with hearts tainted with malicious wicked intentions, we are guilty of a real affront to Christ Jesus Himself by offering an indignity to His Sacramental Body and Blood ; and, as Chrysostom says^f, “ If they who rend the robes of a king are deservedly punished, they who receive the Body of Christ with a defiled soul are to expect the same punishment with them who tore It with nails.” And Basil the Great^g argues for a necessity of much greater purity in order to receive the Body of Christ, than for them who did eat the flesh of bulls and rams offered in sacrifice under the Law.

Primitive Christians publicly confessed their private sins.

The primitive Christians were so fully convinced of the great necessity of being thus prepared for the Sacrament, that it was usual for them to confess such sins^h, as they might have concealed from the knowledge of others ; and so to put themselves into the state of Penitents rather than continue in communion with the Faithful, when they suspected themselves to be unworthy of it. It was in those ages the custom for the Deaconⁱ, just at the beginning of the Communion-Service, to warn all to depart the congregation, that were but Catechumens or Hearers only, not Orthodox or Faithful ; every one that had a grudge against another, or that was guilty of dissimulation, or that was any ways unworthy of the Lively Sacrifice, that was not fully instructed or not fit to touch the Mysteries with defiled lips. And many sincere Christians, being convicted with the admonition of the Deacon and their own consciences, did of their own accord go out with the

^f B. p. 41. Ap.

^a, b. p. 23. Ap.

^h See the Penitential Discipline of the Primitive Church, p. [38. Ed.

Oxon.]

ⁱ c. p. 53. Ap. Chrysost., (o o.) p.

39. Ap.

Penitents, and so were put into their rank, confessed their CHAP.
sins, and submitted to discipline ; for they believed that no V.—
man, who was in a state of sin, ought to approach the Lord's
Table. And it ought to be the prayer and endeavour of
every one, who has the honour of Christianity at heart, that
these admonitions of the Deacon may again be heard in the
Church ; and that the Christians of this age may be as
sensible of the danger of unworthy receiving of the Eu-
charist, as they of the primitive Church shewed themselves
to be.

But it ought to be particularly observed that the danger of unworthy receiving the Sacrament had not that effect on Christians of old, that it has now amongst us ; for they did not from hence conclude, that it was more easy to live in the neglect of this Holy Ordinance, but only that they ought to use the greater zeal and diligence in preparing themselves for it. It is certain, that they, who had been guilty of any gross sin in the first ages and were for that reason obliged to stand in the rank of Penitents, did very much lament and bewail their own condition, and thought their separation from the Holy Communion to be a very sore punishment, though a very just one ; they did, with prayers and tears and all the outward signs of inward grief and anguish, desire and request to be again admitted to the Holy Eucharist. This was the only end they proposed to themselves in this world by their fastings, confessions, and humiliations ; they were not of the opinion of the Christians of this age and country, who seem to think, that to live and even die without the Sacrament is more desirable than to give themselves the trouble of a diligent preparation for it, and to run the risk of being unworthy communicants. I am persuaded, if the Church had stuck close to its first and most primitive constitution, that is, if all baptized Christians must have been either Communicants or Penitents, as they were of old, then men would easily have perceived the necessity of being constant communicants ; except it can be supposed, that any should be so very singular as to choose to live all their life-time in a state of such severe repentance as I before described. But the truth is, the Christians of the Apostolical times were under a full and just persuasion of the necessity of their being in a state of com-

Danger of
receiving
unworthily,
no excuse
for wilfully
abstaining.

C H A P.

V.

union with the Church, and of receiving the Sacrament ; and were therefore willing to undergo any hardships for the obtaining of this privilege. But, now of late, men think the Eucharist no privilege at all ; or, if it be any, they expect to enjoy it, though they live and die in their sins ; and so a very great, and perhaps in some places the greater, part of those who go under the name of Christians, are either unworthy communicants, or else never communicate at all for fear of eating and drinking their own damnation. St. Paul is the only holy writer, who lays before us the danger of unworthy receiving ; now I wish they who are so terrified with his words would but consider the conclusion, which he himself makes from this doctrine ; he does not from thence argue, that it is best to abstain from this Sacrament, but on the contrary he says, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that Bread and drink of that Cup." And that Christian, who argues in a manner directly contrary to the Apostle, has just reason to suspect his own judgment.

Resolving
against sin
for the fu-
ture, neces-
sary to fit
us for the
Eucharist,
as it is a
Covenant.

III. To make ourselves worthy communicants, we must resolve with God's grace to keep ourselves undefiled for the time to come ; for it is evident, he that does not is not pure in heart, is not a firm and resolute servant and soldier of Christ Jesus. And the very same reasons, which I used to prove that he who receives the Sacrament ought not to allow himself in any sin, are easily to be applied by the reader to this head of discourse ; but it was necessary to mention this particular, that so every communicant might have an eye to the time to come as well as to the time past. Christ has declared the Cup in the Communion to be "the New Covenant in His Blood ;" our English Translation indeed calls it "the New Testament," but all truly learned men will tell you, that the meaning of our Saviour is "the New Covenant." Now it is evident, that God in and by the New Covenant promises pardon, grace, and eternal life, on His part ; but then it is on condition that we perform the terms of the Covenant on our part ; and these terms are faith, repentance, and obedience for the time to come. He, therefore, who comes to the Communion without a full and sincere resolution of leading a holy life for the time to come, does not receive it as a Covenant, or does not stand to his part of the

Covenant ; and therefore cannot in reason expect that God CHAP.
V. should perform His part. And nothing is more evident than this, that God can never be reconciled to any man that lives in wilful sin ; and “ If we say that we have communion with ^{1 John i. 6.} God, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth.”

Yet we must take heed of a common error, which is, that sins committed after receiving the Eucharist are hardly, if at all, to be pardoned. We may be infallibly sure that this is a mistake, if we consider that St. Peter was guilty of the great sin of denying his Master with his tongue, though not in his heart, within a few hours after he had received the Sacrament from the hands of Christ Jesus Himself. Yet there is no reason to doubt but he was forgiven, and at last died in a state of grace and salvation, and, as he himself expresses it, “ a partaker of the glory which shall be revealed.” ^{1 Pet. v. 1.} And what is more, Christ Himself, Who knew and foretold Matt. xxvi.
34. his fall, yet administered the Eucharist to him. Christ Jesus saw his heart, and knew him to be sincere, when he declared that he would die with Him rather than deny Him ; he was indeed overcome soon afterwards with the fear of suffering with his Master through the infirmity of his nature. And this may serve as a certain evidence that we are fit for the Communion, if our resolutions are hearty, though they afterwards be broken : if it were otherwise, no man could ever judge himself fit for the Sacrament ; for it is impossible for us to know what we shall do hereafter, or whether our honest purposes shall ever be brought to perfection. But from the fall of this Apostle we should learn to use a double diligence in guarding ourselves against temptations after we have received the Eucharist. We should endeavour to out-do the Apostle in taking heed to our ways afterward, rather than to imitate him in that confidence of his own strength, which does so evidently appear in the words he used on this occasion.

IV. To make ourselves worthy communicants we ought to receive the Eucharist with inward and outward reverence.

1. With inward reverence, which consists in having our minds filled with awful thoughts of That God, before Whom we appear, and with Whom we desire to continue in covenant and communion ; with just conceptions of Jesus Christ,

Inward reverence necessary in receiving,

C H A P. ^{V.} as the only true Son of God by nature, Very God of Very God, our only Mediator and Advocate; with a due esteem of the salvation and redemption wrought by His Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, the memory whereof we solemnize in this Ordinance. And particularly we ought to entertain our minds with a reverential consideration of the Eucharist itself, as the most valuable and beneficial institution that God ever vouchsafed to men, as being what our Saviour intended it, that is, His Body, given or offered to God for us, His Blood shed for the remission of our sins; for though the substance of Bread and Wine remain, yet they are in mystery and power the sacrificed Body and Blood of Christ, and they that do not discern the Body of our Lord in the Eucharist are in St. Paul's judgment unworthy receivers.

2. We must perform this service and receive this Sacrament with an outward reverence. The Christians at Corinth

^{1 Cor. xi.}
18.

are blamed by St. Paul chiefly for want of this. For "first of all they had divisions among them, when they came together" to administer and receive the Eucharist; some came with a ravening hunger, and others came "drunken," that is, their spirits were too much elevated with what they had drunk at the supper, which the Corinthians had in the Church just before the Eucharist, in imitation of our Lord and Saviour, Who first administered the Sacrament just after He had eaten the Passover. This supper was one great occasion of all these disorders, and therefore St. Paul clearly intimates, that he would have them eat it at home or in

^{1 Cor. xi.}
22, 34.

some private house; for, says he, "Have ye not houses to eat and drink in, or despise ye the Church of God?" And, "If any man hunger, let him eat at home or in some private house." It was at this supper, that the poor were neglected, and the rich eat and drank more than enough.

^{Jude 12;}
^{2 Pet. ii. 3.}

This supper was called a feast of love and charity; but the rich here took their "own supper," which they had brought with them, and "shamed them that had not" wherewithal to entertain themselves. This want of charity was a very ill preparation for the Eucharist, which they received presently after. When he therefore charges them with eating and

* 1 Cor. xi. 21, 22. προλαμβάνειν seems here to signify 'taking before-' hand,' that is, before the Eucharist, not 'to take before others.'

drinking "unworthily," he means performing the Ordinance C H A P.
V.
in so unseemly and unbecoming a manner as these Corin-
thians did; and he immediately declares, that they were for 1 Cor. xi.
27.
this reason "guilty of the Body and Blood of the Lord."

2. We ought particularly to shew our reverence, by receiving it in an humble posture of body; because it is an action by which we covenant and communicate with God, by which we expect to receive pardon and grace from Him. The ancient Christians did never worship what they received as the Very Christ, both God and Man, which the Papists have done for many ages past, and still do (and in this I believe them guilty of idolatry); but they treated it decently¹, they came to it as to the Body of their King. It is commonly believed that Christ and His Apostles sat at the Communion; but this is all mistake. Our Translation indeed says, they "sat down," but this was to eat the Pass-
Matt. xxvi.
20, 21.
over; and it is certain that the Greek word signifies not 'to sit,' but 'lie down,' and it is sometimes so turned in our Mark v. 40. English Bibles. Now it is certain that the Jews, in eating the Passover, did use several prayers and hymns; and if they pronounced or sung them, while they thus leaned or lay along, then it must be owned, that this was a posture of devotion in our Saviour's time; but if they rose up, and so changed their posture in order to pray and sing at the Passover, then we have the same reason to believe that they did so too in order to administer and receive the Eucharist. It is certain, that the long and solemn prayer, used by Christ^m, (John xvii.) was offered by Him in the room where He instituted the Sacrament; and there is reason to believe, that the prayer itself was part of the devotion which He used on the occasion of His administering the Eucharist. And He cannot be supposed to have prayed in any posture but what was humble and fit for the worship of God.

V. To make us worthy receivers, it is necessary that we should have a competent knowledge of the nature of the Eucharist; to which end I shall briefly explain the history of the Institution, as it is recorded by St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke, and St. Paul. Now we are informed that, "after Christ and His Apostles had eaten the Passover,
What is the
meaning of
the Eucha-
rist, and
especially
of blessing
the Bread
and Cup.
Matt. xxvi.
26; Mark

¹ See Part I. p. [237.]

^m See the Introduction.

CHAP. V.

xiv. 22; Luke xxii. 19; 1 Cor. xi. 23.

Luke xxii. 19; 1 Cor. xi. 24.

1 Sam. ix. 13.

He took Bread and blessed itⁿ." The main point is, what is meant by 'blessing' the Bread; now it is certain, this word is capable of several significations. And, first, some will have it to mean no more than 'giving thanks' over it, as the master of the feast among the Jews used to do, especially because St. Luke and St. Paul use this very word upon this occasion. But it is clear^o beyond all doubt, that both these words have the same meaning in this history; and the meaning is, that Christ did by proper ways and means give or procure a blessing to the Bread which He had taken into His hands. I deny not but this might be done in a remote and less proper sense, by calling on God, and praising Him for being the Author of bread and all other fruits of the earth; but there are two other ways of blessing bread or any other creature, namely, offering it to God, as Samuel did the sacrifice; for by this means he was said to 'bless' it: therefore all sacrifices are called 'blessings,' both the meal-^p and drink-offering, and also the beast^q offered at the altar. Whatever was offered at God's altar did become God's peculiar property, and was thereby blessed and sanctified. Or, lastly, to 'bless' may signify to obtain by prayer a special Divine blessing upon any creature. Thus Christ 'blessed' the Bread and Fishes, that is, He did by

ⁿ Learned men have observed, that ἐσθίοντας here is a participle of the second aorist, not of the present, or præter-imperfect tense. So the Critics; and observe, that it is expressly said, that He took the Cup "after supper," or "when he had supped." Luke xxii. 20; 1 Cor. xi. 25.

^o This is evident, because where St. Matthew and St. Mark say, Christ "blessed" the Bread, St. Luke and St. Paul say, "He gave thanks," or 'Eucharistized' the Bread: and though the three Evangelists do agree in saying, "He gave thanks," or 'Eucharistized' the Cup; and St. Paul also says in one place, that He 'Eucharistized' the Cup as He had the Bread, 1 Cor. xi. 24, 25; yet at another place he calls it "the Cup of blessing, which we bless," 1 Cor. x. 16. If therefore St. Paul had said, 'which we Eucharistize,' instead of "which we bless," the sense of the words had still been the same; for it is certain, that both these words are transitive in this history.

^p Joel ii. 14. "He will leave a blessing behind Him, even a meat-offering, and a drink-offering."

^q Mal. ii. 2, 3. God says to the priests, "I will curse your blessings, I will deprive you of the shoulder, and will dash the maw upon your faces, even the maw of your solemn feasts," or sacrifices. So the LXX excellently well render it, and their Hebrew Books varied very little from the present; the shoulder and maw were the known portion of the priest in all peace-offerings.

^r In the two histories here mentioned, there is a plain proof that to 'bless' and 'Eucharistize' are words of the very same meaning. The first history mentions five loaves only; this is related by all four Evangelists; the three first (Matthew xiv. 19; Mark vi. 41; Luke ix. 16) do agree in using the same words, "He blessed them;" but St. John says, "He Eucharistized them," John vi. 11, 23. In the other history there is mention of seven loaves.

prayer obtain the Divine power to descend upon them, by CHAP.
which they were so multiplied as to feed several thousands. V.

Now the whole Christian Church, till of very late years, did by her practice declare, that she believed Christ to have blessed the Bread in all these three senses. Not, indeed, that the ancients thought any miraculous change made in the Bread and Wine, or expected that they should be multiplied, as the loaves and fishes were; but they conceived that the Bread and Wine, by the Holy Spirit or Divine benediction, were made the spiritual Body and Blood of Christ. Thus the elements were blessed, not only by having most solemn praises pronounced over them, but by being offered to God in remembrance of the Sacrifice of Christ's Body and Blood, and by a prayer to God to render them the Body and Blood of Christ in life and power, though not in natural substance. It must also be observed, that our Saviour did, by an act of His own will, appoint or depute the Bread and Wine to be His Body and Blood in mystery, before He offered them to God; and then, having blessed them in the manner now described, He distributed first the Bread and then the Cup; at the giving the former He said, "This is My Body given," or offered to God "for you;" for, when He appointed the Bread to be a figure of His Body, and as such offered it to God, He did then as a Priest, under this figure of Bread, present His own natural Body to His Father, as a Sacrifice for the sins of men; and therefore He bids them eat it as His Body "given" or broken "for them." At the delivery of the Cup, He bids them "all drink of it;" for it was His Blood, now "shed for them and for many," even as many as should believe and obey Him, "for the remission of sins:" for, when He poured out and offered the Wine, He did thereby give or resign His Blood to be shed for the forgiveness of sin to all true communicants. Thus, it is certain, the ancient primitive Church of Christ understood this history of the Institution of the Eucharist. And this is the most proper meaning of the words themselves; for which

St. Matthew says, "He Eucharistized" both the loaves and fishes, Matthew xv. 36. St. Mark says, "He Eucharistized the loaves," and "He blessed the

fishes," Mark viii. 6, 7. This latter history is omitted by SS. Luke and John.

CHAP. two reasons joined together I cannot but conclude this to
 V. have been the sense and intention of Christ Himself.

The true method of administering the Eucharist. From this it appears, what is the true method of celebrating the Eucharist, which is, after having presented the Bread and Wine on the Altar, to praise God for having made so plentiful provision of these and other creatures for the use of man: then to rehearse the history of Christ's Institution, by which the Priest does as it were open his commission, and shew the authority by which he is now acting, that he does it by virtue of those words spoken to the Apostles, and, in them, to all Christian Priests, "Do," or offer, "this in remembrance of Me:" and, further, by the repeating of this history, the Bread and Wine separated for this use are particularly declared to be the symbols, image, or representation of His Body and Blood. Then they are to be offered to God in memory of that great Sacrifice once offered by Him. After which, the Priest and congregation are to pray to God, that He would render the Bread and Wine offered to Him, not only mere figures and images of Christ's Body and Blood (for that they were before), but such figures and images as may be in power and effect, though not in substance, the Very Body and Blood of our Redeemer. And to these purposes the primitive Church, after the Words of Institution, always used such a Form of Prayer, as the reader will find at the end of the book, at this mark, No. 1.

The benefits of worthy receiving. It is particularly to be observed from that Form of Prayer, that the ancient Christians believed that the Sacramental Body and Blood of Christ were to all worthy receivers a means of strengthening them in piety, [and] of obtaining remission of their sins and everlasting life. And all this they learned from the Scripture, rightly understood: for Christ hath assured us, that the Flesh and Blood which He promised to His disciples "are spirit and life;" and St. Paul says, that "we are all made to drink into the One Spirit," in which words he clearly alludes to the Cup in the Eucharist; so that it is evident, that all good Christians do here receive increase of grace. Further, Christ assures us, that the Bread and Wine in the Eucharist are His Sacramental Body and Blood "given" and "shed for the remission of sins;" so that they are the seals of pardon to all who receive them with

John vi. 63. mised to His disciples "are spirit and life;" and St. Paul

1 Cor. xii. 13. says, that "we are all made to drink into the One Spirit," in

duly-prepared hearts. Lastly, Christ hath said, "He that feedeth on My Flesh, and maketh My Blood his drink, hath everlasting life, and I will raise him at the last day." From which it is clear, that he, who with a true faith and other good dispositions receives the Sacrament, does at the same time receive an assurance of a happy Resurrection; and he, who receives without faith and other good dispositions, does not perform the duty here enjoined by Christ Jesus, and so has no right to the promises.

CHAP.
V.
John vi. 54.

VI. The last means to render ourselves worthy communicants is self-examination. And how and in what particulars we are to examine ourselves, appears by the foregoing discourse. The questions, then, which every communicant should put to himself, are these:

1. Whether he has been duly baptized?
2. Whether he has kept his Baptism undefiled? If he hath, he is one of the most worthy sort of communicants: if he hath not, he ought further to call himself to account, whether his repentance be answerable to the guilt of his sin? And because in these points many difficulties may arise, therefore if any doubt remain upon his mind, he ought to lay his case before some discreet spiritual guide, as the primitive Christians did; not in order to receive private absolution, but only to be well advised concerning the degrees of repentance which are necessary in order to fit him for the Eucharist after any wilful sin.
3. Whether he be sincerely resolved, with God's grace, to keep himself pure and undefiled for the future? Without this, no man can worthily receive it.
4. Whether he hath been guilty of want of reverence at the receiving it? that so, if he have formerly sinned in this particular, he may for the time to come use more care and diligence, and beg God's pardon for what is past.
5. Whether he hath studied to get a competent knowledge of the nature of this Mystery? If he hath not, I desire him to read over again and again what he finds under this head just above. And, indeed, all middling readers will find it necessary to read the whole of what has here been said with great attention. And I pray God give to all, eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to understand.

APPENDIX.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE ALTAR.

No. I. THE PRAYER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION IN THE MOST ANCIENT LITURGY NOW EXTANT.

WHEREFORE, remembering Christ's Passion, and Death, and Resurrection from the dead, and Return into Heaven, and His second Coming with glory and great power to judge the quick and dead and to recompense every man according to his works, we offer to Thee, our King and our God, according to His appointment, this Bread and this Cup ; giving Thee thanks through Him, that Thou hast vouchsafed us to stand before Thee, and to sacrifice to Thee : and we beseech Thee to look favourably on these Thy gifts, which are here set before Thee, O Thou Self-sufficient God : and do Thou accept them to the honour of Thy Christ, and send down Thine Holy Spirit, the Witness of the Lord Jesus His Passion, that He may make this Bread the Body of Thy Christ, and this Cup the Blood of Thy Christ ; that they who are partakers thereof may be confirmed in godliness, may obtain remission of their sins, may be delivered from the devil and his snares, may be replenished with the Holy Ghost, may be made worthy of Thy Christ, may obtain everlasting life, Thou being reconciled to them, O Lord Almighty.

No. II. A PRAYER TO BE USED BY ONE THAT IS GOING TO COMMUNICATE, WHICH MAY PROPERLY BE USED EVERY DAY BY A CONSTANT COMMUNICANT ; AND, IF IT BE FREQUENTLY OFFERED WITH A SINCERE HEART, WILL PRESERVE A MAN IN SUCH A DISPOSITION OF MIND AS TO BE ALWAYS FIT FOR THE HOLY SACRAMENT.

O most merciful God and Father, I acknowledge and adore Thine infinite love in sending Thy Son Jesus Christ

to take upon Him our nature, and to suffer death upon the Cross, as a Sacrifice for the sins of men. I bless the Divine goodness and wisdom of Thy Son, in offering His Body and Blood to Thee, and in commanding His Church to continue the memorial of it until His coming again to judge the quick and the dead.

Grant, O gracious God, that all Christian men may have a just sense of the riches of Thy love and mercy in Christ Jesus, and may be duly affected with His holy Life, heavenly Sermons, meritorious Death and Passion, glorious Resurrection and Ascension ; that we may all delight ourselves in doing Thy Will and His, in offering the good Oblation, in shewing forth His Death according to His appointment : and, Lord, let the offering made by Thy Church be pleasant to Thee, as in the days of old, and come up with acceptance on Thine Altar ; let Thy gracious Presence be with Thy people assembled together and praying in the Name of Thy Son. Turn not away Thy Face from the Priests, and the congregations that join with them in pleading the merits of Thy Son's Death and Passion, in the manner that He Himself ordained. Let the fire of Thy Holy Spirit always descend on the Christian Sacrifice, and on those who offer it ; that their iniquity may be taken away, and their sin purged.

We are taught by Christ Himself, that, except we feed upon the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, there is no life in us ; and that he, who feedeth upon His Flesh and drinketh His Blood, hath eternal life. Give, Good God, to all Christian people, hearts seriously to believe and consider these great truths, and truly to understand this Mystery, that none who believe in Christ may live in the neglect of this duty, or perform it in an unworthy manner. Open their eyes, that they may discern the Body and Blood of Christ in this Holy Sacrament ; that they may know and feel the life and spirit, by which our Lord Christ is there present, and no longer look for the natural Body and Blood, which are in Heaven only, and which must there remain until the time of restitution of all things. Grant, that all Christians may receive these Pledges of Salvation with awe and reverence, equally abhorring profaneness and superstition ; that all, who call Christ their Master, may continue with one accord in

breaking of this Bread, that they may all be One Body and One Loaf; and that this Feast of Love may no longer be the occasion of strife and division.

And since the Blood of Thy Son is the Blood of the Eternal Covenant, and that we cannot in reason hope to partake of Thy Promises, unless we perform the conditions on which they are made, grant that none may presume to come to this Fountain, which Thou hast opened for sin and for uncleanness, without broken hearts and bruised spirits, without a sincere sorrow for all their known wilful sins, and a sincere resolution of obedience for the time to come. Let no man dare to approach these Heavenly Mysteries, but such as earnestly desire and endeavour to keep their Baptismal Covenant undefiled, by persisting to renounce the devil, the world, and the flesh, and to contend for the Faith which was once delivered to the saints, and to add to their faith virtue and universal obedience. Oh, let the love of Thee and Thy Son fill and bear rule in the hearts of all communicants; grant that none may come with boldness to the Throne of Grace, but they who really love their neighbours in the same manner they love themselves, that are free from all malice and revenge; and, if they have done wrong, are ready to make satisfaction for it. May all that name the Name of Christ depart from all iniquity. May all that eat of this Bread and drink of this Cup, do it with a sincere desire that Christ may ever dwell with them, and they with Christ; and, to that end, learn from Him to be meek and lowly of mind, and to resign themselves up to Thee in well-doing.

Let these words of my mouth and these desires of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight, especially in behalf of myself; that I may never be guilty of the Body and Blood of my Lord and Saviour, nor eat and drink them to my own damnation: but give me grace so to labour, and prepare myself for that Bread which endureth to everlasting life, that I may always receive and eat it to my present comfort and increase of grace, and to the final salvation of my soul and body at the last day; and, to that end, that I may in the best manner try and prove myself.

I lie down in my shame, and my confusion covers me, when I remember all my wilful sins; I have a sincere indig-

nation against myself, I loathe my own folly and vileness, for having acted contrary to my known duty. I have sinned against Thee and against my own conscience; but I humbly confess my sins, I confess them with grief and anguish of heart; I abhor and detest, and promise to use the best care and circumspection, that I may avoid them for the time to come. I humbly intreat Thy mercy and forgiveness; and I trust Thou wilt seal my pardon in the Communion of the Body and Blood of Thy dear Son. I lament and bewail, not only my known but my unknown sins, such as I have committed through ignorance, forgetfulness, and surprise, and have wholly escaped my notice and remembrance. I lament and deplore the frailty and infirmities of my nature, every lesser excess, levity, and indecency, that I have committed. Who knows how oft he offends? O cleanse Thou me from my secret faults. Oh, let me obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need, through our High-Priest, Who is touched with a feeling of our infirmities; through the Oblation which He is always pleading in heaven, and which He hath taught His Church to represent here on earth.

O God, to Whom all hearts are open, all desires known, Thou seest that it is the secret earnest purpose of my soul to resist or fly from all the temptations of the devil, to destroy his works, and to defeat his malicious designs against myself and against all others. Thou knowest that I do from the bottom of my heart renounce all filthy lucre, all sinful gain, all designs of growing rich or great by the wages of unrighteousness, all immoderate love of wealth and honour; and that I am sincere, when I pray to Thee, that Thou wouldest keep me unspotted from the world. It is my hearty wish and prayer, that I may mortify all the sinful lusts of the flesh, and guard myself by Thy grace from those vices, which are most agreeable to flesh and blood, and to which I am by nature or custom most inclined. Grant, O my God, that I may so thoroughly learn to deny myself, that I may never, with profane Esau, sell my birth-right for any pleasure or profit here on earth; but that I may be ready to part with whatever is dearest to me here, for the sake of Thee, my God, and of my ever-blessed Redeemer, and for

Here mention the particulars, with all the aggravating circumstances.

the salvation of my own soul ; and that I may be ready upon a just occasion to die for Christ, as He hath for me and for mankind.

Lord, I believe, help Thou mine unbelief. I believe Thee to be the Maker and the Governor of the world. I believe Jesus Christ to be Thy True and Only Son by Nature. I believe Him to be God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, my only Saviour and Redeemer, and the Judge of all mankind. I believe the Holy Spirit to be the Lord and Giver of life. To these Three really Divine Persons, in Whose Names I was baptized, and Who do all partake of the One Deity, I acknowledge all glory to be due from myself and from all mankind. I believe Thou hast One Church upon earth, and that the sincere members of it have communion with Thee, and Thy Christ, and the Holy Spirit, and with each other ; and, by living and dying in this communion, I expect remission of sins in this life, and a happy Resurrection hereafter. Lord, evermore keep me stedfast in this Faith.

Enable me, O Heavenly Father, to make my faith perfect by my works, and by my life and conversation to adorn the doctrine of my God and Saviour. O do Thou write Thy Law in my heart, that I may never wilfully and presumptuously sin against Thee, either in thought, word, or deed. And, forasmuch as our thoughts are quick, and flow faster than our reason, and our fancies more strong and active than our judgment, and our passions warm and hasty and not easy to be governed ; therefore do Thou, Lord, by Thy grace make me more vigilant and jealous over my own heart : give inward strength and vigour to my reason and judgment, that by them I may be able to check and restrain all the vain and foolish conceits of my own mind, that I may never let them grow into sin by my consenting to them or approving of them ; that I may never be so far transported through any sudden heat as to do or say any thing to the dishonour of Thy Divine Majesty or of Thy Holy Laws, to the hurt of my neighbour or to my own shame. And because the tongue is an unruly member and a great instrument of sin, therefore I do in an especial manner beg the assistance of Thy Spirit, that I may tame and bridle it, and be always slow to speak,

except where Thy honour, and the vindication of truth and innocence, or the good of myself or my neighbour, is concerned; or, at least, where I may please others without offending Thee.

Above and beyond all things else, grant that I may love Thee, my God, and so keep the first and greatest Commandment. Thou art infinitely amiable in Thyself, and full of love toward us. All that we can know of Thee excites me to love Thee more and more; and to renounce every thing which is contrary to the love I owe to Thee. Thou art my Chief Good; Thy gracious Presence makes Heaven what it is, a place of perfect happiness; I desire and sincerely will endeavour, that my treasure may be there, and my heart there. I love and adore Thy Son, not only as my Lord and my God, and possessed of the same Divine Nature with Thee, but as my Saviour and Redeemer, Who shed His own Blood for my sake. O grant, that if Thou in Thy Providence shalt call me to it, I may shed mine for Thee and Him.

Let my love toward Thee make me well affected to all men, peaceful and reconcileable, easy to forgive such wrongs as are to be forgiven, just and upright in my dealings, ready to give to all their due and to return good for evil. Give me a tenderness and compassion for the souls and bodies of all men; make me fearful of hurting them in their goods, estates, and reputations; dispose me to do every thing that reasonably I can for the present and eternal good of all, and especially of those of the household of faith. O pardon and forgive mine enemies: incline their hearts to turn and repent, that I may joyfully embrace them as my friends and brethren; and, if, when I am bringing my gift to the Altar, I remember that my brother hath any wrong to lay to my charge, I [may] profess myself in full purpose to do all that can in justice be required of me, in order to procure peace and reconciliation with him before I offer my gift. If I am forced in my own defence to go to law, or to deal severely with any man, yet grant that I may always preserve a charitable disposition toward my adversary, and never use extreme rigour.

Thou, O Lord, dost justly resist the proud and give grace to the humble. I desire sincerely to walk humbly with Thee, my God, and with my fellow-creatures. Grant that I

may always approach Thine House and Altar with fear and reverence, and serve Thee and work out my own salvation with fear and trembling. And for Thy sake, Good God, make me submissive and obedient to my governors in Church and State, not only for wrath, but also for conscience' sake. I desire not great things for myself; I abhor the thoughts of assuming or usurping what belongs not to me. I have taken on me the yoke of the blessed Jesus, Who was meek and lowly of heart. O grant that I may never shake it off through a proud or rebellious spirit.

Grant, O God, that I may put my trust in Thee, and be doing good; that I may in all conditions of life submit to Thy appointments, cheerfully acknowledge Thy right of dominion over us, and the wisdom, justice, and goodness of all Thy proceedings with myself and other men; that in whatever state I am I may learn to be content, and rejoice in tribulations and in suffering according to Thy Will, if that shall be my lot.

With these purposes and dispositions of mind I desire on all opportunities to go to Thine Altar, and to join in offering the Christian Sacrifice and in feeding on the Body of Thy Son and in drinking His Blood. Oh, Thou that hast put these good desires into my heart, be pleased to bring them all to good effect, through the merits and mediation of Thy Blessed Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NO. III. DEVOTIONS AT THE TIME OF RECEIVING.

At going into the Chancel, or towards the Lord's Table, before the Offertory begins, say,

LIKE as the hart desireth the water-brooks, so longeth my soul after Thee, O God. My heart is athirst for God, even for the Living God. Oh, let me come to appear in the Presence of God. I will go unto the Altar of God, even of the God of my joy and gladness; and there will I give thanks unto Thee, O God, my God.

At the offering thine alms, say,

O Almighty God, Possessor of heaven and earth, of Thine own give I Thee. Accept of this freewill-offering of mine

hands, as a testimony of mine acknowledgment of Thy right over all that I enjoy, as an expression of my love and charity to Christ's poor members, and as a small proof of my love to Him. O grant that all my alms-deeds may be done with such purity of intention, and with such a liberal hand and heart, that they may be as a sacrifice of sweet-smelling savour in Thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

If thou art poor, and hast no alms to give, say,

Thanks and glory be to God, Who made both poor and rich, and careth for both alike; that gives worldly goods plentifully to some, that so their abundance may be a supply to the wants of others. May all that partake of their charity bless God, Who disposes men to give of what they have with open hands and cheerful hearts. God reward them an hundred-fold into their bosom; may all happiness and eternal salvation come to them and their families. Accept, O Lord, my willing mind, my charitable desires; accept my prayers in behalf of them who contribute to the relief of the poor and needy; and let my crying come unto Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

When the Priest places the alms and the Bread and Wine on the Altar, say,

The Lord accept thine Oblations, and perform all thy petitions, in behalf of thyself and us.

After the Prayer of Consecration, say,

O most merciful Lord God, as we do believe Thy Son Jesus Christ, the High-Priest of our Oblation, to be now and always appearing at the Right-Hand of Glory, and always presenting His crucified and now glorified Body in our behalf; so we beseech Thee, let His intercession prevail with Thee for the acceptance of the services performed by Thy Church here on earth, according to His appointment. Reject not us nor our Oblations, while we wholly depend upon Thy Son Christ Jesus, as our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

Just before you receive the Sacrament of Christ's Body, say,

What am I, vile dust and ashes, that I should be admitted to this royal feast, to eat the Heavenly Bread, which the Son of God giveth to His Church? May I eat it, not only with my mouth but with my mind; may I truly discern the Lord's Body, and be replenished with the life and spirit of these Holy Mysteries. I wholly resign myself up to Thee, O Holy Jesus, Who hast given Thyself for me; do Thou be pleased to take possession of me, and grant that I may continue Thine for ever; let Thy Holy Spirit dwell and bear rule in me, cleanse and purify me from all sin, and quicken my mortal body, and seal me to the day of redemption.

*Between receiving the Sacrament of the Body and Blood, say
as much as the time will permit of what here follows.*

Blessed be Thy Name, O Lord Jesus, for this Thine inestimable gift; for this comfort, which Thou affordest me in this vale of tears.

As long as I live, will I magnify Thee; as long as I have my being, I will most thankfully acknowledge Thy goodness in offering Thy Body and Blood as a Sacrifice for my sins, and feeding and strengthening my body and soul to everlasting life by these Pledges of Thy love.

Let this Holy Food repair in me whatever has been decayed by the lusts of the flesh or the wiles of Satan.

Let my understanding for the future be exercised in the knowledge of Thee, and of those Divine Truths which Thou camest from Heaven to teach us, which alone can make me wise unto salvation.

May my will choose and delight in my God and Saviour above all things, as the chiefest good and the most desirable portion.

May my affections be entirely fixed upon my Maker and Redeemer, as the most lovely, perfect, satisfying enjoyment.

May my judgment always direct me to refuse evil and to choose good; to prefer things eternal before things temporal; heaven before earth, and God before all.

O may my soul by frequent Communion be firmly and

unalterably bent into an union and conformity with my God and Saviour ; so that in all things I may do His Will, not my own. These are now the desires of my heart ; O may they ever be so. Amen, Lord Jesus, Amen.

Just before receiving the Cup, say,

I will take the Cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord ; I will call upon Him for pardon, grace, and salvation. He will not reject my prayer, nor turn His mercy from me.

After you have received in both kinds, say,

O Heavenly Father, we are taught by Thy Son Jesus Christ, that he who feedeth on His Flesh and drinketh His Blood hath eternal life ; I have endeavoured in the sincerity of my heart to fulfil the will of my Lord and Saviour, according to His own appointment. Be it therefore unto me according to His word. May the hopes of eternal life be my support and comfort in this world ; and may the enjoyment of it be my portion for ever.

Grant, O God, that I may be truly sanctified both in body and soul, through the Blood of the Everlasting Covenant ; and that I may never tread it under foot, or do despite to the Spirit of grace. By feeding us with the Body of Thy Son, and giving His Blood to be drank by us, Thou affordest us the greatest assurance of Thy love and favour toward us that we can expect in this life ; do Thou give us a heart duly to esteem and value these testimonies of Thy grace and mercy.

In this Sacrament Thou sealest Thy promises of pardon, grace, and everlasting happiness to all sincere communicants. The Cup, which I have now received, is the New Covenant in the Blood of Christ ; and by drinking of it we engage ourselves to believe and live according to the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour ; Grant, O God, that we may never forget to take hold of this Covenant, and to perform the conditions required on our part ; that we may cease to do evil, and learn to do well ; that we may depart from all iniquity, and walk in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord, and order our conversation in all respects, as becomes the Gospel of Christ.

I am Thine, Lord, by the right of creation, I am Thine by purchase ; for Thou hast redeemed me by the Blood of Thy Son, That Lamb of God, Which taketh away the sins of the world. I am Thine by Covenant, not only by being early dedicated to Thee in Baptism, but by my own free act and deed ; for I have renewed this Covenant with Thee in the Holy Communion. I am under the strongest ties and bonds to love and serve and obey Thee ; and I rejoice in those bonds ; for Thy service is the most perfect freedom. I humbly trust, by the power of Thy grace, and by my own diligence, to persevere and stand fast in this glorious liberty unto my life's end. Give grace to all Thy faithful Priests and people, who communicate in this Sacrifice and Feast of good things, that they may not break the yoke and burst the bond of Thy Covenant, but live and die in a strict observation of it, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer to be said after the Communion, in behalf of all men, but especially of Christians.

O most merciful and gracious Lord God, That art the Saviour of all men, especially of them that believe, having now humbly represented to Thy Divine Majesty the glorious Sacrifice, which Thy dearest Son Jesus Christ offered, of His own Body and Blood, relying on Thy goodness, and trusting in Thy promises, and in the never-ceasing intercession made by our Eternal High-Priest in heaven, I put up my prayers to Thee in behalf of all that call on Thy Name, and have communicated to-day in the One Sacrifice, throughout the whole Christian world ; and also in behalf of all them that desire to communicate, but are hindered by any just necessity, whatsoever it be.

Give unto me, O Lord, and give unto them a portion of all the good prayers made by Christ in heaven, and by Thy Church on earth. Be pleased now, in this day of mercy, when Thou openest the treasures of heaven, and rainest down Manna to refresh our weary souls, be pleased of Thine infinite goodness to grant, that this Holy Communion may be sweetness and strengthening nourishment to every honest Christian ; that it may be health and safety in every tempta-

tion ; joy and peace in every trouble ; light and strength in every good word and work ; comfort and defence in the hour of death, and against all the malice of the spirits of darkness.

Unite all that have a sincere love for Christ and His Gospel in the bonds of one common faith and a universal charity ; that no prejudices, mistakes, or private interests, no wiles of Satan or worldly politics may keep us any longer in darkness and division ; that, from the rising up of the sun to the going down thereof, the One Pure Oblation may be offered, and all Christians may be of one heart and one mind, and praise Thee and their Saviour with one voice and one spirit ; that Christians of all nations and tongues and kingdoms may agree in singing praises to Thee, Who sittest upon the throne, and to the Lamb for ever and ever.

Give Thy blessing to all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governments ; grant to them the spirit of justice and mercy, prudence and equity, the favour of Thee their God, and the love of their people. Grant that they may so administer the trust reposed in them, that they may be at peace with Thee and with one another, always remembering the great account they are to give to Thee, the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

Pour down an Apostolical spirit on all Bishops and Priests ; grant to them a zeal of souls, wisdom to conduct their several charges, purity to become examples to their flocks ; that their labours and their lives may greatly promote the honour and the kingdom of the Lord Jesus ; that, being burning and shining lights, men may rejoice in them, and glorify Thee the Giver of all good gifts.

Turn, Good Lord, the hearts of children to their parents, of parents to their children ; of servants to their masters, of masters to their servants ; of wives to their husbands, of husbands to their wives ; of people to their Kings and Priests, of Kings and Priests to their people ; of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just ; of all toward one another, and especially toward Thee.

Let Thy continual pity cleanse and defend Thy Whole Church : kindle a primitive zeal in the breasts of all that fear Thy Name ; that they may ask and seek for the old

paths, and diligently walk in them. Revive the first fervours of faith and charity, simplicity, justice, patience, humility, mortification, and self-denial, in all Christians ; that they may indeed live according to the doctrine of the Holy Jesus, without scandal or reproach.

I humbly beseech Thy Divine Majesty to accept the Sacrifice this day offered to Thee in behalf of my dearest friends and relations ; [*name particulars ;*] grant unto them all the wise and holy desires of their own hearts ; grant that they may never fall into Thy displeasure by any presumptuous sin or wicked habit : let them be never separated from Thy love ; grant that they may want nothing necessary to life and godliness, and that their portion may be among Thine elect people.

Accept of this Sacrifice in behalf of all that suffer wrongfully, or that are under Thy correcting Hand ; sanctify their afflictions to them, and then put an end to their sufferings. Relieve all that are oppressed ; restore all to their rights, who are injuriously deprived of them. Suppress all violent, warring spirits, that unjustly disturb the peace of the world. Support all that are sick, and either restore them to their health or prepare them for a happy change. Lord, ease the griefs, abate the pains, resolve the doubts, redress the hardships, vindicate the innocence, supply the wants, relieve the necessities of all, so far as is consistent with Thy justice, and goodness, and wisdom in governing the world ; but look with a particular compassion upon those, who from a high or plentiful condition are fallen into poverty.

Be merciful, O Lord, to all, not only to those whom I have, but whom I have not, remembered : grant that all careless and corrupt Christians may by Thy Providence be struck with such a sense of their sins, that they may earnestly repent and live well for the time to come ; that they, who through ignorance or worldly interest continue in the impure Communion of the Church of Rome, may be convinced of their errors, and no longer sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. To all heretics and schismatics give the grace of truth, peace, humility, charity, and obedience ; and grant that none, who have the light of Thy Gospel shining upon them, may throw themselves away, and have their portion with the unbelievers.

Take pity, O Thou Lover of souls, on all that are strangers to the kingdom of Thy Son; let the sweet sound of the Gospel be heard in all the dark corners of the earth; that so all the ends of the world may remember themselves, and be turned unto the Lord, and become one fold under One Shepherd. Shorten the days of our trouble, and put an end to the days of our sin; and let the kingdom of the Lord mightily prevail; of That Lord, Whom I adore and love, and pray, that I may still love Him more and more for ever and ever. Amen.

No. IV. AN ADVICE FOR HIM WHO ONLY COMMUNICATES SPIRITUALLY, ACCORDING TO THE DOCTRINE LAID DOWN IN THE FIRST PART OF THE UNBLOODY SACRIFICE, pp. 455, 6. THIS ADVICE I TRANSCRIBED FROM THE MOST PIOUS AND LEARNED BISHOP TAYLOR'S WORTHY COMMUNICANT^a, AND IS AS FOLLOWS.

"THERE are many persons well-disposed by the measures of a holy life to communicate frequently, but it may happen that they are unavoidably hindered. Some have a timorous conscience—others are advised by their spiritual guides^b to abstain^c,—some are scandalized at irremediable miscarriages in public doctrines or government—some dare not receive it at the hands of a wicked Priest—some can have it of no Priest at all; but are in a long journey, or under persecution, or in a country of a differing persuasion—some cannot have it every day, but every day desire it.

"Such persons as these, if they prepare themselves with all the essential and ornamental measures of address, and actually desire that they could actually communicate, they may place themselves on their knees; and building an Altar in their heart may celebrate the Death of Christ, and in holy desires join with all congregations in the Christian world, who that day celebrate the Holy Communion; and may serve their devotion by the former prayers and actions

^a [Cap. vii. sect. iii.] p. 386. Edition 1686.

^b The Bishop must mean, mistaken injudicious guides; for none other would direct such to forbear, "who are well-disposed to it by a holy life;"

and of such he here speaks.

^c [Here Johnson omits these words, "for a time, that they may proceed in the virtue of repentance further yet," &c.]

Eucharistical, changing only such circumstantial words, as relate to actual participation.

[He proves by a citation from St. Augustine^d, that] “when this is done without the actual Sacramental participation, this is called Spiritual Manducation. Concerning which I will only add the advice of a religious Person; ‘Let every soul be ready and desirous often to receive the Holy Eucharist to the glory of God: but, if he cannot so often communicate Sacramentally as he desires, let him not be afflicted, but remain in perfect resignation to the Will of God and dispose himself to a spiritual Communion; for no man and no thing can hinder a well-disposed soul, but that by holy desires she may, if she please, communicate every day.’

“To this nothing is necessary to be added, but that this way is never to be used but upon just necessity, not upon peevishness and spiritual pride; not in the spirit of schism and fond opinions; not in despite of our brethren, and contempt or condemnation of the holy congregations of the Lord; but with a living faith, an actual charity, and great humility, and with the spirit of devotion; and that, so much the more intensely and fervently, by how much he is really troubled for the want of actual participation in the Communion of Saints.”

I must have leave to add to what this admirable writer has said on this occasion,

An Act of Spiritual Communion, to be used after the Prayer above-written, No. II., when the person is destitute of an opportunity of external Communion.

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord; when shall I come to appear before the Presence of God, in the assembly of His people? In the mean time, I know full well, O Heavenly Father, that Thy eyes are in every place, in all the dark corners of the earth; and that Thou art every where near to all that call upon Thee faithfully.

I rely upon the Sacrifice offered by Christ Jesus for the pardon of my sins, for the assistance of Thy grace in doing of

^d [Serm. xxi. De Verbis Domini.]

my duty for the future, and for the assurance of a happy Resurrection to eternal life. I acknowledge it to be the bounden duty of all Christians to communicate with Christ, and with each other in that Holy Ordinance, where He has declared His Body to be given to God for us, His Blood to be shed for the remission of our sins; and has commanded us to eat the one, and to drink the other. Lord, Thou knowest the desire of my heart to be to this Bread and this Cup; and that, whenever Thou in Thy good Providence shalt remove the obstacle under which I at present lie, my heart is ready to join with any true Christian Priest and people in offering this Sacrifice and partaking of this spiritual feast. In the mean time, I lament the want of opportunity; and promise, that, if Thou wilt deliver me from my present destitution, I will give thanks unto Thy Name, I will pay my vows in the midst of Thy people, and will with them celebrate the Communion of the Body and Blood of my Redeemer.

Accept, O Lord, of my will and desire, while I cannot actually communicate. Let Thy gracious Presence be with me, while I do now in mind and spirit approach Thine Altar, and offer my mite, and join in the devotions of Thy Church, and magnify Thy love and mercy in all Thy works, and especially in the Redemption of the world through Christ Jesus, and confess my unworthiness of the least of Thy mercies, and especially of that which is the greatest. I lament and abhor my sins, and renounce them for the time to come; I sincerely love Thee, and Thy Son, and His Gospel, above all things; I love my neighbours after the same manner that I love myself; I desire their present welfare and their eternal happiness; I sincerely forgive mine enemies, and desire and purpose in all things to fulfil Thy Will. Lord, reject not my prayer, nor turn Thy mercy from me; while, though absent from all true Christian congregations in body, but present with them all in spirit and desire, I join with them in pleading the merits of the all-sufficient Sacrifice of the Body and Blood of Thy Son, for the pardon of my own sins and of all sincere Penitents, for the obtaining of all necessary graces and of a happy Resurrection to eternal life. I sincerely labour for, and have a true hunger and thirst after, the Bread and Cup that endureth to everlasting life. Oh,

whilst I am denied the Sacrament itself, be Thou pleased to grant me the power and effect of it by the operation of the Holy Ghost ; and dismiss me not without a blessing, through the High-Priest of our Oblation, Jesus Christ, Thine only Son, my Lord and Saviour. Amen.

NO. V. A PRAYER TO BE USED BY A SINCERE PENITENT CHRISTIAN, WHO LIVES UNDER THE CENSURE OF EXCOMMUNICATIION, OR IS REPELLED FROM THE LORD'S TABLE BY THE MINISTER, OR OF HIS OWN ACCORD ABSTAINS FROM THE SACRAMENT, ON ACCOUNT OF SOME GROSS AND SCANDALOUS ACT OF SIN, OR FOR SOME EVIL HABIT.

O ALMIGHTY Lord God, Who hast declared wrath, tribulation, and anguish against every soul of man that doth evil ; I am confounded with guilt and shame and with a just fear of Thy displeasure for the sins which I have committed [*name them particularly with all their aggravating circumstances ;*] I am in Thy sight a polluted person ; I loathe myself ; I am a scandal to others, a spot to the Church, a burden to the earth, and deserve to be scorned and rejected by Thee : sin, like a crust of leprosy, hath overspread me ; I am justly separated from the congregation of Thy faithful people. I am unworthy, O Lord, I am unworthy to come into Thy Presence, to eat the Heavenly Bread, the Bread of Thy children, to drink the Cup of blessing, the Wine of gladness. My conscience accuses me ; the devils rejoice at my fall, and aggravate my crimes, already too great. I confess to Thee, O God, what Thou knewest before. I confess it to magnify Thy mercy ; for it were just in Thee to destroy me, and to leave me no time and place for repentance. I have deserved death, but Thou delightest not in that ; Thou desirtest rather that I should repent and live. Blessed be Thy goodness, which hath so long spared me, and doth yet spare me ; so that I am not swept away in the midst of my sins. O Thou That desirdest all men should be saved, grant me a repentance to salvation not to be repented of. Give me grace so to express my godly sorrow by fastings, by watchings unto prayer, by abstinence even from lawful pleasures, by alms-deeds, by forgiving all that have offended me, that I may be received

as a returning prodigal ; that Satan may be trodden under my feet ; that the hand-writing against me may be blotted out ; that all my sins, known and secret, wilful and unwilful, may be forgotten ; that I may be cleansed from all filthiness both of flesh and spirit ; that there may be joy in heaven at my conversion ; that I may be again restored to the true sheep-fold and to my old pastures, and recover the dignity from which I am fallen, and again be made partaker of the Divine Mysteries, the Pledges of Thy love. And when I am made whole, grant me such firmness of mind, that I may never again fall from my own stedfastness by committing any presumptuous or wilful sin ; but that, with Thy Apostle Peter, with Mary Magdalene, and with all sincere zealous Penitents, I may for the future more affectionately love Thee and Thy Holy Laws, and be for ever loved by Thee ; and, when this life is ended, be received into my Master's joy, through Him Who came down from heaven to seek and to save that which was lost, Thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

CONCLUSION^e.

I PROMISED in the Epistle Prefatory^f to the First Part, that “if any should attack the argumentative part of that book, and do it in such a manner as became a scholar and one that understood the subject on which he wrote, an answer should not be wanting, God giving me life and health.” But I never promised to tire my reader and myself with tedious vindications of my own personal credit and character against the drollery or malicious insinuations of my adversaries. Dr. Wise by using this method has effectually given up the cause in the opinion of all judicious men; for no man abandons himself wholly to grimace and farce in a religious dispute, but he that is destitute of proof or argument.

Dr. T——r^g is very gentleman-like in his style and address, but by his many falsifications has forfeited the character of a divine and a scholar. I shall therefore for the future think it a sufficient answer to any book which I know comes from his hands, to say, ‘It was written by Dr. T——r.’

I hope Mr. Lewis will not imagine his pamphlet unanswerable, because no particular confutation of it has been published. We have been old confidants; and though he seems to have violated the laws of friendship, yet I thought it would best become me not altogether to forget our former alliance. I the rather chose to be silent, because the pamphlet is written against me rather than against the doctrine of the Sacrifice of the Eucharist; and I thank God I can easily forgive any personal reflections. Mr. Lewis knows I have sufficient proof that he was formerly a friend to this doctrine, and I am not without hopes that he is so still; especially, because I am sure, there is no argument produced by him in his pamphlet sufficient to alter the judgment of any discerning person. There is very little in it which has any appearance of proof but what he will find answered in this Second Part, though without any mention of his name; for I was unwilling to ex-

^e [This portion comes immediately after the Addenda, in the First Edition of 1718.]

^f P. 45.

^g [Dr. Turner.]

pose an old friend, or to consent that he should be exposed by another. And I hope he will not provoke me or any one else to fescue out to him the places where his surmises are confuted. But there is one point in which he seems to think that he has an advantage of me ; I mean, because I give some countenance to, or however do not directly contradict, the notion of some of the Fathers, that the Sacramental Body and Blood are wholly converted into the nourishment of our bodies. Now when Mr. L. can prove that this is contrary to the nature of bread and wine, and that it cannot be done without a miracle, I promise to give up this notion, as a pious excess of those particular Fathers, and which I had never entirely made my own. Yet when this is done, I shall think the doctrine of the Sacrifice as true and safe as it was before ; for there is no manner of dependence between these two doctrines ; either of them may be false and the other true ; I only mentioned it by the bye, as an instance of the honourable opinion which the ancients had of the Sacrament. And indeed there are very few things said by Mr. L. but that I may safely grant them to be true, without any danger to the main cause. So I take my leave of Mr. Lewis, hoping, that since we cannot be entire friends, yet that we shall be moderate adversaries ; and that though he be fallen out with me, yet he is not in earnest an enemy to the Sacrifice in the Eucharist.

The strength of my cause does in a great measure depend upon a plain matter of fact, which is, that Christ in the Institution of the Eucharist said, "This is My Body given for you." He declares that He did then and there give His Body for the sins of men. Let no man think that he has answered this, by saying that the time present is sometimes put for the time to come ; for though this be true, yet no good arguer will from thence conclude, that therefore the present is always to be taken for the future. Let it be shewed, that ever any matter of fact, besides this, was thought to have been done afterwards, when all the writers who relate it, and who are no less than four, do all agree that it was done at that present time. No man in any other case will say, that the present is anywhere put for the future, except it do appear from other evidence, that the thing was not then done, but that it was done some time after. And if it can be proved that our Saviour did

not in the Eucharist perform the Oblation of His Body and Blood, and that He did it at some other time only here on earth ; if this, I say, can be proved from any plain direct words of the New Testament, I shall be ready to allow the force of this argument. If indeed the Church had always understood our Saviour as meaning the time to come, though speaking of the time then present, this might be some prejudice against the doctrine of the Sacrifice in the Eucharist : but since Theodoreth^h, Chrysostom, Augustine, Jerome, Hilary, Ambrose, Gregory Nyssen, Eusebius, Athanasius, Cyprian, Clemens Alexandrinus, and the author of the Constitutions, do clearly understand our Saviour as meaning the time present ; since the whole Church of Christ, till now of late ages, has by her constant practice declared, that she believed Christ as a Priest to have performed the Oblation of Himself, when He instituted the Eucharist ; I must have leave to observe, that they, who notwithstanding all this do assert that Christ meant the time yet to come, must be men that pay greater regard to their own opinion or to a modern tradition than to four inspired writers and to the universal judgment of the Church in the purest ages.

There is one point in which it concerns me to be very importunate with my reader, and it is a piece of common justice, I mean, that he would take my sentiments from my own words, and not from the representation of those who either have already written against me, or may hereafter do it. And if I can prevail thus far with those who are pleased to be judges in this dispute, I persuade myself, there will be no occasion for me to trouble the world with any thing further on this subject.

If my reader be one of those, who is convinced of the truth of this doctrine, I further beg his prayers for me, as often as he performs the Holy Oblation or is present at the celebration of it.

^h See Part I. p. [135, 147.]

BISHOP POYNET'S TESTIMONY,

IN WHICH THE DOCTRINE CONCERNING THE EUCHARIST, AS REPRESENTED IN THE FOREGOING TREATISE, IS CONFIRMED FROM A LATIN BOOK OF THE RIGHT REVEREND DR. POYNET, LORD BISHOP OF WINCHESTER, A MAN VERY EMINENT AND ZEALOUS IN THE REFORMATION OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND, AND WHO DIED IN EXILE IN THE REIGN OF Q. MARY. THE BOOK IS ENTITLED, "DIALACTICON VIRI BONI ET LITERATI, DE VERITATE, NATURA, ATQUE SUBSTANTIA CORPORIS ET SANGUINIS CHRISTI IN EUCHARISTIA."

It was first printed in or before the year of our Lord 1557, and reprinted in the year 1688, for Griffin and Keble. The first edition or editions I never saw; that published in the year 1688 contains 82 pages in 4to.

A while before the writing of this [Bishop Jewell's] Apology, came forth the Diallaetic of the famous Dr. Poynet, Bishop of Winchester, writ on purpose to explain and manifest the faith and doctrine of the Church of England in that point^a.

I THINK it very providential, that I had finished and sent to the press the foregoing treatise, before I ever had seen or heard of this book, directly or indirectly; and that, within a few days after I had put my papers into the bookseller's hands, a learned friend, who was well acquainted with the scheme of the doctrine of the Eucharist which I designed to publish, was pleased to let me know, that I had the great Poynet with me, as to the main of what I had asserted on this subject, and withal sent me a printed copy of his book. This I must confess was no small satisfaction to me; for though I was well enough assured that I had antiquity on my side, and that no man need to be ashamed of a doctrine so well supported; yet I was apprehensive, that this prejudice lay against a great part of what I had advanced in this treatise, viz., that no man beside myself had ever pretended to discover those notions in the monuments of the ancient Church and the writings of the Fathers, which I have here ventured to lay before the learned world. I did not doubt

^a Bishop Cosin's History of Transubstant., c. 2.

but that others, who were better versed in antiquity than myself, must have seen these doctrines clearly taught in the primitive Church; but I was not sensible, that any man had ever in print declared his sentiments to this effect; and the reader will therefore easily believe, that it was not only a means of confirming me in my opinion that I understood the ancients rightly, but a great comfort to find, that I was not alone in the judgment I had made upon so important a head of Christian divinity; especially when the author I now speak of was a person, that made so great a figure in our Reformation. My Christian reader will believe me, when I most solemnly assure him, that I have not altered one point of my whole scheme, since I had the happiness of perusing Bishop Poynt's *Diallacticon*; and that as it was not in my power to make any corrections to his book, so neither has he occasioned any alterations in mine. And he that considers, how exact an agreement there is in all particulars of any great moment or consequence (excepting that of adoration) between the *Diallacticon* and the *Unbloody Sacrifice*, under every head that is handled in both books, will not only be convinced that the doctrines here treated of are the more certain as drawn from the same premises and supported by much the same authorities, in books written by two persons at so great a distance from each other in age as well as other respects, and utterly unacquainted with each other's notions; but will likewise consider it as a standing proof, that when several men do set themselves to examine any doctrine, where the evidence and means of information are sufficient, they will certainly agree in their conclusions as to the main, if they are men of an impartial integrity; and this is the only good quality, in which I pretend to compare with Bishop Poynet.

It is true, it was not the design of this most learned prelate to treat of the Eucharist as a Sacrifice; if it had, I see no reason to doubt but his judgment had been as clear for me in this respect, as it is in others; not only because the doctrine of the material Eucharist laid down by Bishop Poynet is the foundation on which the Sacrifice stands, but because of some short but very frank and apert intimations in the *Diallacticon*, that his real opinion was for the Eucharistical Sacrifice. There are also several propositions in relation to

the material Eucharist, which Bishop Poynet did not think fit to consider, but which are handled in the Unbloody Sacrifice ; and there is such a dependence and connection between the doctrines asserted by this excellent man, and those others which I have undertaken to prove in the foregoing book, over and above what the Bishop has advanced in the Diallacticon, that he who observes how strongly and decisively he pronounces for me in almost every point that he was then pleased to take under his cognisance, will have little reason to doubt but that he would have given judgment on my side in those other particulars, which did not fall under his consideration. And I have the greater reason to believe so, when I observe how great a regard this Bishop expresses and pays to the primitive Fathers. There is one particular, for which his book may be condemned by men that are rigid and censorious ; which is, that he cites several spurious pieces, and takes many passages of St. Augustine and others upon the credit of Gratian, who often very unfairly represents his authors ; but the age in which he lived is a sufficient apology for this. For learned men know very well, that the spuriousness of those pieces and the unfaithfulness of Gratian had not been so effectually discovered at the beginning of the Reformation, as they have since that time ; and the ingenious reader, who has an opportunity of perusing his book, will observe, that he generally produces such a number of unexceptionable citations as are sufficient to carry his point, without the aid of supposititious or dubious authorities. And for the satisfaction of such readers, as want the book itself, I have abridged it, so far as I thought it necessary, to give them a sketch of this venerable Bishop's notions on this weighty subject^b.

Bishop Poynet begins his book by observing, that the Reformation was like to lose ground by means of the disputes concerning the Eucharist among the Protestants themselves ; and tells us he had laid this matter greatly to heart, and recommended the cure of this evil to God by his prayers, and at the same time applied himself to inquire into the

^b Advertisement. Wherever Bishop Poynet cites any passages from antiquity, that I have made use of, I refer my reader to them, as in the foregoing book.

truth by examining the Scriptures and testimonies of the Fathers, that so he might be able clearly to determine this matter, and to give satisfaction to any that asked it^c.

He reduces his discourse to three heads. "First" (says he) "I will shew, that the verity of Christ's Body is given in the Sacrament. Secondly, that there is a difference between Christ's proper Body and That in the Sacrament, and that the ancients so judged. Thirdly, I will shew, what sort of Body That is, Which is received in the mystery, and why It is so styled, according to the judgment of the Fathers^d."

1. He proves the verity of Christ's Body in the Sacrament from the words of institution, as recorded by SS. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Paul. He adds, that "what our Saviour says, John vi. 51. 53. 55, is by the Fathers both Greek and Latin with one consent referred to the Sacrament of the Eucharist^e."

To prove the verity of Christ's Body in the Eucharist, he alleges the authority of Justin Martyr^f and Irenæus^g, many passages from St. Augustine out of Gratian, and then St. Hilary^h; several passages from Cyril of Alexandria; Pseudo-Cyprian. *De Cœna*; Jerome from Gratian; Chrysostomⁱ, Pseud-Ambrosius *De Sacramentis*. Several places from (the) true St. Ambrose^k, Eusebius Emissenus from Gratian, Leo and Synod. Rom., Gregory Nyssen, Euthymius, Theophylact, John Damascen.^l

He concludes this head with these words; "Though our faith depends not on men, but on the word of God; yet when they confirm their judgment by the authority of Scripture, it is of great use to pious souls and such as love truth, to consider, how so many men eminent for their piety and learning understood the words of Scripture, and with one consent transmitted their interpretations to posterity: nor

^c p. 1, 2.

^d p. 3. ["Primum ostendam veritatem Corporis Christi in Eucharistia dari fidelibus, nec has voces, Naturam atque Substantiam, fugienda esse: sed veteres de hoc Sacramento disserentes ita locutos fuisse. Deinde discrimen esse monstrabo inter Corpus Domini proprium, et Illud quod inest in Sacramento, veteresque Patres ita censuisse. Postremo cuiusmodi sit hoc Corpus

quod accipitur in mysterio, et cur eo nomine censeatur, indicabo, secundum eorundem Patrum sententiam."]

^e p. 3, 4.

^f a. p. 1, 2, Ap.

^g f. p. 5, 6. Ap. l. 21.

^h a. p. 20. Ap.

ⁱ z. p. 1, Ap.

^k particularly, i. p. 27. Ap.

^l p. 4—14.

can he avoid the imputation of temerity, who shall dare oppose so great authority^m."

2. He proceeds to shew, whether the ancients believed a difference between That Body of the Lord Which is distributed in the Sacrament, and That Which He took of His Virgin Mother; or whether 'verity,' 'nature,' 'substance,' are to be taken in a common sense, or in a manner peculiar to the Sacrament; "For," says he, "we must not only observe, in what words the Fathers spoke, but what they meant in so speakingⁿ." He observes, that "Christ's Body" sometimes signifies in Scripture That Body Which was born of the Virgin, died, &c., and sometimes the Church, and at other places the Sacrament; in the first place it is taken properly, in the others improperly^o.

"This," says the Bishop, "ought in the first place to be observed, that the ancients in discoursing on this subject do apply the words of our Saviour, Joh. vi. 55, 53, 51, to the Sacrament. Nor are they to be regarded, who deny that this chapter refers to this matter, in opposition to so great a cloud of witnesses. But their arguing is rather to be approved, who think, that as this Evangelist speaks of the humanity of Christ more sparingly, but more copiously of His Divinity; so, that John takes no notice of the institution and external rite of the Sacrament, but that the true genuine meaning is by him discovered, and more apertly delivered to us. The minds of the Capernaites, when they heard these words, were much offended, and thereupon they went away and deserted Him; but the Apostle who stayed behind, being well advised and raised to a higher and more august notion, heard [Christ say], "The words which I speak unto you are spirit and life." Hence it is, that the ancients do all reject the common opinion, and the vulgar sense of the words, 'This is My Body,' and what Our Saviour said concern-

^m p. 14. ["Et quanquam fides nostra non hominibus, sed verbo Dei nititur, tamen quem illi sententiam suam autoritate Scripturæ muniant, utile est admodum piis animis et veritatis cupidis considerare, quo pacto tot eximii pietate ac doctrina viri Scripturæ verba intellexerint, magnoque consensu ad posteros interpretationes suas trans-

miserint; neque temeritatis culpam effugiet, qui tantam audebit autoritatem contemnere."]

ⁿ ["Neque enim observandum est solum quibus verbis olim Patres loquuti sunt, sed quid etiam sibi volebant ita loquentes."]

^o p. 14, 15.

ing eating His flesh ; and follow the more divine meaning, and that which is more agreeable to Sacraments, as they affirm^{p.}"

He cites Chrysostom^q, Pseud-Hieronymus in *Ep. ad Ephes.*, several passages from St. Augustine in Prosper, s. p. 33. Ap. l. 20, St. Augustine on Psalm xxxiii. and on Psalm xcvi., in which are those words, and then, e. p. 31. Ap., and his Epistle to Boniface ; several passages of the same Father from Gratian ; and then *Ad Dardanum*, and On John, Tract 50 ; Gregor. Naz^r. and Gregor. Nyssen. in *Homil. Pasch.* Eusebius Emissen, from Gratian ; Ambrose from Gratian, and the true Ambrose^s, then Pseud-Ambr. *De Sacramentis* ; and the true Ambr.^t

Having mentioned the words of St. Ambrose, " Christ offers Himself as a Priest, here in an image, there (viz., in Heaven) in the verity," Bishop Poynet adds^u, " He distinguishes one oblation from the other ; and though^x both are truly performed in their way, yet that which is celebrated in the Church is in an image ; the Verity Itself remains to intercede with the Father for us^y."

Further, he supposes St. Ambrose borrowed these words from Origen on Psalm xxxviii., where he speaks of Christ as a " Priest now offering Sacrifices to the Father, and as being to

^p p. 15, 16. [" Illud in primis animadvertendum occurrit, quoties apud veteres agitur de hoc Sacramento, verba Domini nostri quæ Joan. cap. 6. referuntur, 'Caro Mea vere est cibus,' &c. ad hoc Sacramentum omnes applicant.—Nec audiendi sunt, qui tanta nube testium réfragante negant illud caput Joan. huc referendum esse. Quin potius illorum probanda videtur oratio, qui ut hunc Evangelistam humanitatem Christi parcus quam cæteros, Divinitatem plenius explicare censem, ita quæ ab aliis Evangelistis de Sacramenti hujus institutione ac ritu traduntur externo, ea quidem Joannem non commemorasse, sed eorum veram et germanam intelligentiam ab ipso nobis patefactam, et apertius traditam esse indicant. Constat autem Capernaitarum animos, quum dixisset Dominus, 'Caro Mea vere est cibus,' &c. valde offendens atque perturbatos fuisse, et proinde deserentes Eum abiisse : intellexerant enim crasse nimium et populariter duodecim autem Apostolos qui remanserant admonitos, et ad sensum alti-

orem augustinoremque subiectos audisse, 'Verba quæ Ego loquutus sum, spiritus et vita sunt.' Hinc factum est ut veteres omnes commune judicium et vulgarem intellectum in verbis illis, 'Hoc est Corpus Meum,' et quæ loquutus est Dominus de comedenda Carne Sua, fugiant, et modum intelligendi diviniorem et Sacramentis ut ipsi asserunt magis congruentem sequantur."]

^q s. p. 40. Ap.

^r f. p. 21. Ap.

^s k. p. 27. Ap.

^t m. p. 27. Ap.; p. 16—28.

^u [" Discernit alteram oblationem ab altera, et quamvis utraque suo modo vere fiat, haec tamen quæ celebratur in Ecclesia fit in imagine, Veritas autem Ipsa manet, ut advocatus pro nobis apud Patrem."]

* Et quamvis utraque suo modo vere fiat: I appeal to the reader, whether Bishop Poynet do not here declare for a true Sacrifice.

^y p. 28.

offer them also hereafter ;” he subjoins, “ Origen writes to men of learning and experience, and is not therefore intelligible to every body ; but this he manifestly declares, that the Sacrifices, which are offered here, are images of That Verity, Who has entered into the heavens :—And though these images have their verity too, yet that is different from the proper Verity.”

He proceeds to cite Origen *In Matth.* and *Contra Celsum*^a, and^b *Homil. 7. in Levit.*, and next Epiphanius^c, then Pseudo-Cyprian *De Cœnd*, and Cyril Alexandr.^d, and several other places ; and then Theophylact, and John Damascen. He observes the last to be a very inconsistent writer, that he sometimes denies, at other times affirms, the Bread to remain after consecration. He cites him for saying of the Sacramental Body, “ This is that pure^e Unbloody Sacrifice, which God hath commanded to be offered ;” and reflects thus upon the words, “ If this be meant^f of His assumed Body and Blood, how is it unbloody ? If of His spiritual Body and Blood^g, what he says is true^h. ” He further cites Bertram at large, and with great approbation, and ends with Aquinas and Lombard. So his citations to prove the Sacramental Body distinct from His [Christ’s] proper Body born of the Virgin, reach from p. 16 to p. 49.

The difference between the Proper and the Sacramental Body he asserts to be, that the first has human shape, members distinct from each other, sense, &c., the other has none of these ; one is not in mystery, the other is ; one is not subject to corruption, the other is, it being materially bread ; one cannot, the other may and ought to be eaten ; one is

^z p. 28, 29. [“ Doctis et exercitatis scribit Origenes, ideoque non cuivis obvius. Illud tamen manifeste tradit, Hostias quæ hic offeruntur, imagines esse Illius Veritatis, Quæ penetravit cœlos. Et quamvis imagines istæ suam quoque veritatem habeant, tamen hanc ab Illa propria Veritate differre.”]

^a a. p. 9. Ap.

^b Here Bishop Poynet produces those very words to prove that the Body of Christ in the Sacrament is not the proper or natural Body, which Dr. Whitby alleges as an argument that John vi. is not to be understood of the Eucharist. The reader is judge whe-

ther the Bishop or the Doctor are most in the right.

^c c. p. 22. Ap.

^d f. p. 44. Ap.

^e [“ Hæc est pura illa et sanguinis expers Victima, quam Deus per Prophetam ab ortu solis ad occasum Sibi offerri jussit.”]

^f [“ Si de assumpto Corpore loquitur et Sanguine, quomodo sanguinis expers est? si de spirituali Corpore et Sanguine, vera narrat.”]

^g Here again he clearly allows the Sacrifice, for the Spiritual Body is with him the Sacramental Body.

^h p. 42.

contained in a certain place, the other is not, but is present wherever the Sacrament is celebrated ; one was taken out of the Body of the Virgin, the other is not, but is what it is by benediction ; one is a natural Body, the other supernatural ; one is simply properly and absolutely [the Body of Christ], the other *secundum quid*, and improperlyⁱ.

3rdly, He goes on to shew how the Sacrament is the Body of the Lord, more at large ; and wherefore our Lord and His Apostle Paul and the ancients declared it so to be ; “not,” says he, “that the *modus*^k of it, which is a spiritual and secret thing, can be comprehended by human reason ; or that we endeavour to pry into what is forbidden and denied us ; but that we may follow what is delivered to us by authority of Scriptures and of the ancients, which are agreed in this point, excluding all human inventions. And that is firmly to be maintained, which we have already proved, that not only the words of our Lord, but the words used at the Lord’s Supper, ‘Take, eat, This is My Body,’ &c., are not to be understood carnally but spiritually, and that the same manducation is meant in both places ; when I say not carnally, I mean not according to the letter, nor as the words properly sound^l.” To prove that the words are not to be taken carnally, he cites St. Chrysostom^m, Pseudo-Cyprian, Theophylact, St. Augustineⁿ. He observes two ways of eating a thing ‘carnally :’ the first, he says, is to eat it roast or boiled, and cut into small pieces ; the other, to eat it raw, and to suck the running blood, as wild beasts do. If we say the Flesh of Christ, strictly so called, is present, whether we mean, that It is raw, roast, or boiled ; whether entire, or cut in pieces ; whether openly, or covertly ; it is the carnal sense, and the words are carnally taken, if

ⁱ p. 49, 50.

^k [“Non quod modus iste, qui spiritualis et arcana res est, humana ratione deprehendi possit, aut nos curiose quæ vetita negataque sunt investigare conemur, sed ut commentis humanis exclusis, quæ Scripturarum et antiquorum Patrum cum his consentientium auctoritate nobis tradita sunt, sequamur. Illud firmiter tenendum est, quod ante probavimus, non solum verba Domini quæ referuntur Joan.

cap. 6. sed hæc etiam Cœnæ Dominicæ verba, ‘Accipite, edite, Hoc est Corpus Meum,’ spiritualiter non carnaliter intelligenda esse, et eandem utробique manducationem intelligi ; cum dico non carnaliter, dico non secundum literam neque ut verba proprie sognant.”]

^l p. 51.

^m y. p. 40. Ap.

ⁿ s. p. 33. Ap. l. 21.

they mean proper flesh ; we do not therefore not eat carnally, because we do not see It. They who are blind see not what they eat ; and men do frequently, in broth and soups, eat flesh and eggs, which they neither see nor taste. And this, says he, is what Chrysostom calls carnal eating. Now the ancient Fathers observed two things in this Sacrament ; and on the account of both it was deservedly called and esteemed the Body of Christ. For 1st, because the Bread is a figure of the true Body, it is deservedly called the Body. 2. Much more because it has the vital power joined with it. 3. But, most of all, because it contains both. That the figure of any thing may, without injury, be called the thing itself, Esaias shews, when he says, "The people is truly grass." He gives several other instances, and cites St. Augustine's Epistle to Boniface, in which are these words, "If Sacraments^o had not some likeness of those things, whereof they are Sacraments, they would not be Sacraments at all^p." He produces the words of Tertullian^q, Nazianzen^r, Augustine *Contra Adimantum*, Chrysostom's Homily on Matt. xxvi. 26—28, and thereupon reflects on the Papists, who reproach others as Sacramentarians, but do themselves set aside the Sacrament. 2ndly, There is another thing in the Sacrament, which the ancients acknowledging affirmed [the Sacrament] to be truly the Lord's Body ; and that is the efficacious life-giving virtue of His Body, Which is joined with the Bread and Wine by grace and the mystical benediction. This is called by divers names, by St. Augustine^s, "the intelligible Body," or "the invisible spiritual Body ;" by Jerome, "the Divine spiritual Flesh ;" by Irenæus, "the heavenly thing ;"

^o ["Si enim Sacraenta quandam similitudinem earum rerum, quarum Sacraenta sunt, non haberent, omnino Sacraenta non essent."]

^p p. 54.

^q o. p. 9. Ap.

^r f. p. 21. Ap.

^s If this Right Reverend author had distinguished between the 'heavenly thing' in Irenæus, (as being the same with what St. Augustine calls elsewhere the 'virtue of the Sacrament,' which is called by others 'the Divine grace and benediction,') and 'the spiri-

tual Divine Food Flesh or Body ;' and affirmed this latter to be the entire Sacramental Body ; and 'the heavenly thing' to be that Divine power of the Spirit by which the Bread is made the Body of Christ, (as he seems to do at another* place,) there had been a perfect agreement between the Diallationcon and the Unbloody Sacrifice in this particular. St. Augustine calls the Sacramental Body intelligible and invisible, as being what It is, not to the eye of the body, but of the mind ; to our faith, not to our senses.

* See the first reference in the next page.

by Ambrose, "spiritual food," and "the Body of the Divine Spirit," by all which the same thing is meant. And this is the cause, why this Sacrament is most worthy of the name of the true Body and Blood; since it not only outwardly bears Its figure and image, but carries along with it the hidden latent natural property of the same Body, that is, the life-giving virtue; so that now it cannot be thought an empty figure, or sign of a thing absent; but the Divine and spiritual Body of our Lord, present by grace, full of virtue, powerful in efficacy. We give the names of the things themselves to their virtue or efficacy—nor does Scripture want examples of this sort; we will content ourselves with one instance, but an illustrious one. Christ said of John the Baptist, "He is Elias," because the angel said, "He shall go before Him in the spirit and power of Elias." As John therefore was Elias, because he possessed the virtue and power of Elias: so the Bread of the Lord is the Body of Christ, because it has Its grace and vital power united to it^t. And that this is no new contrived opinion, but received and approved by ancient writers, we will prove partly by repeating what has been alleged already, partly by adding more^u. He proceeds to produce his authorities to this purpose, viz., St. Augustine^x, and another passage from Gratian, and in Tract on John i., on Ps. lxv., Tract on John xxvi. and on Ps. lxxvii., then he alleges *Pseudo-Ambrosius De Sacramentis*, and the true St. Ambrose^y, Eusebius Emissenus from Gratian. And whether they are the genuine words of Eusebius or not, they well deserve to be translated, and are as follows, "^z Because Christ was going to remove His Body, Which He had assumed, out of sight, and to convey It into heaven, it was necessary that on the day of the Supper the Sacrament of His Body and Blood should be consecrated for us; that what was once offered as a ransom might perpetually be celebrated in a mystery; that

^t See the last marginal note.

^u p. 50—57.

^x n. p. 32. Ap.

^y k. p. 27. Ap.

^z ["Quia Corpus assumptum ablaturus erat ab oculis, et illaturus sideribus, necessarium erat ut die cœnæ Sacramentum nobis Corporis et Sanguinis consecraretur, ut coleretur jupiter per mysterium, quod semel offe-

rebatur in pretium, ut quia quotidiana et indefessa currebat pro omnium salute Redemptio, perpetua esset Redemptionis Oblatio, et perennis Victimæ Illa viveret in memoria, et semper præsens esset in gratia, Vera unica et perfecta Hostia, fide æstimanda non specie, neque exteriori censenda visu, sed interiori affectu."]

because our Redemption flows with a daily unwearied stream for the salvation of all, the Oblation of [that] Redemption might be perpetuated; and that this lasting Sacrifice might always live in the memorial, and might ever be present by grace, that true perfect and only Sacrifice to be estimated by faith, not by appearance; to be valued not by outward sense, but by inward affection^a."

He cites the same author for these words^b, "The invisible High-Priest turns the visible creatures, by a word, into the substance of His Body and Blood, by His secret power, saying, 'Take, eat, This is My Body.'" And Bishop Poynet observes^c, how he explains himself in the next words^d, "that earthly mortal things are turned into the substance of Christ, do you, who are regenerate in Christ, take information from yourself." And then he adds^e, if it be attentively considered, how Emissenus, Ambrose, and other Fathers use the word 'nature' and 'substance,' it may easily be perceived, how vainly they make a rattle, who assert a carnal manducation of the Flesh, without accommodating words to the subject-matter. Words change their signification in every science: *genus*, *species*, *figura*, and the like, denote one thing with grammarians, another with logicians. We ought to observe the same in divinity. When the Fathers, in treating on the Sacrament, use the word 'nature' and 'substance,' they speak not in a physical but theological sense, not as natural philosophers but as men discoursing of Divine things; and so giving the names of 'nature' and 'substance' to grace,

^a p. 60. If I could have been satisfied, that these words which are often cited by the writers on this subject, and which are extant in the fifth Homily *de Paschate*, which goes under his name, had been genuine, they had not been omitted by me in the foregoing work. For this Eusebius lived in the middle of the fourth century: and though learned men do not allow, that the works which bear his name were ever composed by him, yet it must be owned that the words are in themselves as full of good sense and judgment as any that were ever spoken or written on this noble subject since the age of inspiration.

^b [“Nam Invisibilis Sacerdos visibilis creaturas in substantiam Corporis

et Sanguinis sui, verbo secreta potestate convertit, dicens, ‘Accipite et comedite, Hoc est Corpus Meum.’”]

^c p. 60.

^d [“Quod in Christi substantiam terrena et mortalia convertantur, te ipsum qui in Christo es regeneratus interrogas.”]

^e p. 61.

^f What follows, the reader will take as an apology for the ancients, for so it was clearly intended, not as if he thought that these expressions were in themselves eligible. His apology for the Fathers is just; but it does by no means follow that we should choose such ways of speaking, since the Church of Rome has made such ill use of them.

virtue, and efficacy, the nature of the Sacrament requiring them so to do^g. He cites Chrysostom for saying, “ We are converted into the Flesh of Christ :” Epiphanius in *Anchorato*, part of the words are those, c. p. 22. Ap., and again, d. p. 22. Ap., Pseudo-Cyprian *De Cœnd*; Cyril. Alexand. *ad Cælosyr.* in words like those, m. p. 45. Ap., and g. p. 44. Ap., then he proceeds to Athanasius^h, to Chrysostom, *Homil.* lxxxiii. *in Matth.* xxvi. among the rest, the last sentenceⁱ; Theodoret^k, and Euthymius, Leo, and *Synod. Rom.* from Gratian; Hilary from Gratian; Theophylact, Bertram, Trithemius, Bernard^l.

But here a scruple starts up, viz., If we believe the grace and virtue of the true Body to be joined with the Bread and Wine, or—shall seem to attribute too much to the symbols—the adoration of the Sacrament and peril of idolatry will be the consequence of it.—“ Now,” says he, “ as to what concerns the adoration of the Sacrament, the ancients received the Sacrament with reverence and great honour, and yet were safe from idolatry; and so might we too, by restoring the ancient discipline and the form of catechism.” He shews, that the ancients adored, when they received, from St. Augustine^m. He cites him also from Prosper, and after him Eusebius Emissenus, then Chrysostom in *Hom.* xxiv. on 1 Cor., Ambrose on 1 Cor. xi., Theodoretⁿ, and lastly, Augustine *De Doctrinâ Christianâ*; who, having mentioned the two Sacraments, adds^o, “ Every one, when he receives them, being well instructed, acknowledges the meaning of them, and venerates them, not with a carnal servitude but rather with a spiritual liberty.” “ And here,” says the Bishop, “ we see how Christians of old gave honour and adoration, in receiving both Baptism and the Supper, with-

^g p. 57—62.

^h a. p. 17. Ap.

ⁱ t. p. 40. Ap.

^k i. p. 46. Ap.

^l p. 62—72.

^m s. p. 33. Ap.

ⁿ m. p. 46. Ap.

^o [“ ‘ Unusquisque quum accipit, quo referantur imbutus agnoscit, ut ea non carnali servitute, sed spirituali potius libertate veneretur.’ Hic videmus quali doctrina fuerunt olim imbuti Christiani, priusquam ad Sacramentorum usum

accederent, et quo pacto quum honorem sive adorationem adhibuerint tam in Baptismo quam in Cœna celebranda, tamen id sine periculo fiebat, aut scandalo. Periculo ut hic liquet, quum non ad id quod videtur et caducum est, sed ad virtutem et significationem respicerent: scandalo, quod olim religio fuerit coram infidelibus, aut mysteriorum ignarisi, non dicam Sacraenta sumere, sed omnino de tam arcanis rebus, apud illos verba facere.”]

out danger; because they did not do it, with respect to what was visible and perishable, but to the virtue and signification, and this without scandal; for of old they made a conscience, not only of taking the Sacrament, but of speaking of such mysterious things before infidels, or men that were ignorant of them." To this purpose he cites^p Theodoret's second Dialogue to this purpose.—Adoration may be affirmed to be of two sorts: the first is that, which we pay to God alone; the other is that, which we give to instituted signs and Divine mysteries, according to that text, "Adore His foot-stool," which most understand of the ark of the covenant, others of the humanity of Christ: or if they think the adoration in both cases to be the same, we may say that the Flesh of Christ, though a creature, is to be adored, because of the Divinity united to it; and that the ark was to be adored on account of the Divine Majesty, which God had promised should be there present. Here the Bishop seems, in some sense, to allow a Divine honour to be paid to what is present in the Eucharist: and therefore it should seem, that by 'the Divine invisible grace' he understood the Divinity of Christ; for it is observable, that he never expressly attributes the efficacy of the Sacrament to the Divine operation of the Holy Spirit, according to the sentiment of the ancients, (as has been shewed at large in the Unbloody Sacrifice;) but further, this excellent man had not considered, that^q Divine honour is due to the natural Body of Christ, on account of the hypostatical union only; and that neither the Divinity of Christ, nor the Holy Ghost, were ever by the ancients supposed to be hypostatically united to the symbols in the Eucharist; and that therefore they could not worship them with a Divine honour. After which manner we may also adore the Eucharist on account of the ineffable and invisible Divine grace joined with it, as St. Augustine speaks, not worshipping what is seen and passes away, but what is believed and understood. And it

^p [p. 75.]

^q See Bishop Stillingfleet's Discourse of the Idolatry practised in the Church of Rome, chap. ii. p. 113, &c. [Ed. 1671. "To make the elements the object of Divine worship, as they do; they must suppose an hypostatical

union between them and the Divine nature of Christ; for if the only reason of joining the Human nature with the Divine in the Person of Christ as the object of our worship, be the hypostatical union of those natures," &c.]

deserves our observation, that this adoration was not paid of old by idle spectators, but by those who received the mysteries, and were made partakers of the grace belonging to them; for he that adores and receives it, to him it is the Body of Christ; not to him that adores it, and receives it not^r.

But whereas it is denied, that the wicked eat the Body of Christ, which they must do, if the spiritual grace be joined with the Bread; we must use a distinction. For if we consider the nature of the Sacrament itself, the Divine virtue cannot be absent from the sign, inasmuch as it is a Sacrament and serves for this use; but if we consider the way of living and disposition of the receiver, that which is in itself both life and grace, is neither the one nor the other to him; because the pravity of wicked men is incapable of receiving so great goodness; nor can it be fruitful; nay, on the contrary it is death and damnation to such. For as many kinds of meats are wholesome in their own nature, but when eaten by diseased bodies increase the evil and hasten death; not through their own nature, but the indisposition of him who eats them; so it is in the Sacrament, the proper virtue whereof is always present with it, until it ceases from its office, although when a wicked man receives it, he can neither receive so great goodness, nor perceive the benefit of it. To this purpose he cites Pseudo-Cyprian *De Cœna^s*, whose words are very apposite, and Augustine *contra Literas Petilianis^t*, and *De Baptismo^u*. Both these citations are much to the purpose; the latter I will translate for my English reader^x. “As Judas made room for the devil to enter into himself, when Christ delivered to him the sop, not because what he received was evil, but because he received it with an

^r p. 72—76.

^s p. 77. [“Sacraenta quidem, quantum in se est, sine propria esse virtute non possunt, nec ullo modo Divina se absentat Majestas mysteriis. Sed quamvis ab indignis se sumi vel contingi Sacraenta permittant, non possunt tamen Spiritus esse participes, quorum infidelitas vel indignitas tanta sanctitudini contradicat. Ideoque aliis sunt hæc munera, odor vitæ in vitam, aliis odor mortis in mortem, quia omnino justum est, ut tanto priventur beneficio gratiæ contemptores, nec in indignis tantæ gratiæ puritas sibi fa-

ciat mansionem.”]

^t lib. 2. c. 47.

^u lib. 5.

^x [“Sicut enim Judas cui bucellam tradidit Dominus, non malum accipiendo, sed male accipiendo, locum in se diabolo præbuit: sic indigne quisque sumens Dominicum sacramentum non efficit, ut, quia ipse malus est, malum sit, aut, quia non ad salutem accipit, nihil acceperit. Corpus enim Domini et Sanguis Domini nihilominus erat etiam illis, quibus dicebat Apostolus, ‘Qui manducat indigne, judicium sibi manducat et bibit.’”]

evil disposition; so whoever unworthily receives the Sacrament of the Lord cannot make that an evil thing, because he is himself evil. Nor does he receive nothing, because he receives it not to salvation. For even to those, to whom the Apostle says, ‘He that eats and drinks unworthily, eats and drinks damnation to himself;’ to them, notwithstanding all this, it was the Body of the Lord and the Blood of the Lord.” He cites him^y to the same purpose^z, and proceeds thus; “Wherefore let it be a fixed conclusion, that Sacraments, while they remain Sacraments, retain their virtue, and that there can be no separation; for they always consist of their parts, viz., the terrene and the celestial, the visible and the invisible, the internal and the external; whether they who receive them be good or bad, worthy or unworthy. Nay, and that change of the signs, and the transition of the elements into the internal substance, which we everywhere meet with among the ancients, can by no means be consistent, if we separate the virtue from the sign, and would have one taken apart from the other: I mean, so long as the sign serves for that use, and is applied to that end, for which it was appointed by God’s Word. For if we use it contrary to the institution of Christ, it either is no Sacrament at all, or it ceases to be one. Therefore they sin not a little, who make use of the symbols of Bread and Wine, not for the purpose which Christ intended, but consecrate them for pomp, which is not allowed by the Word of God, and yet put them off for Sacraments to the silly people. For though they be prepared with due rites, and for lawful ends; yet, when that use and their proper function ceases, they no longer retain the name or virtue of Sacraments. And the ancient practice of the Church gives us a proof for this; for when the Communion was ended, they consumed what remained of the Sacraments, eating it together as a common supper, as Jerome^a testifies upon the eleventh chapter of the

^y p. 77.^z N. p. 36. Ap.

^a I cannot observe any single point in which the Dialacticon contradicts the Unbloody Sacrifice (excepting in the honour due to the Sacrament) but this, that the former asserts the remainder of the Eucharistical Body and

Blood in the primitive Church to have been eaten and drunk in a common feast, or burnt in the fire; but the Unbloody Sacrifice shews that it was reserved to be sent to the sick, or for unforeseen emergencies. But this is not inconsistent, as may seem at first sight; for a great, or even the greatest part,

first Epistle to the Corinthians; and what remained unconsumed was in part thrown into the fire, as Hesychius of

might be eaten and drunk by the communicants, after not only they that were present had received their share, and enough of it to carry some away with them, as was the practice in some Churches; but after those that were absent had had their shares sent home to them. And though the main of what was left, after every one both present and absent had received a part, was eaten and drunk; yet still they might, and did, in many places at least, reserve a modicum for extraordinary emergencies. And if any of the symbols had been so long reserved, as to become exceedingly stale, or even nauseous and offensive; this most probably was that, which they burned in the fire. I am sensible Hesychius on Levit. viii. asserts, “*Igni tradi quæcunque remanere contigerit inconsumpta,*” that whatever of the symbols happened to remain unconsumed, was burnt; but all that remained could not both be eaten and burnt; nor is there any reason to believe that they ever burned any but what could not be properly consumed, that is, by manducation; and therefore I am apt to think, that *inconsumpta* here stands for *inconsumptibilia*; (the Greek was perhaps ἀληττός, or ἀναλωτός, or some particle of that form) what was so corrupted with long keeping, as not to be fit to be received with the mouth. And this they learned from the law of Moses, as Hesychius intimates, which directs the sacrifices, that were grown stale or in danger of putrefaction, to be burnt in the fire, Levit. vii. 17; viii. 31, 32. But, however, a sufficient quantity of the sacred symbols might be sent to the absent, and some perhaps reserved for contingencies, before the rest was cast into the fire. And it is probable, that not only in the Church of Jerusalem, but in others, the corrupted symbols were so disposed of. For how could Sacraments, when unfit for oral manducation, be more decently consumed, especially when the old law required even the most holy things to be put into the fire, when they were grown offensive to the taste? And while the Sacrament was reserved in the Church only for proper uses, as for dying penitents, and such like accidents, not for superstition, as now in the Church of Rome; the nature of it

was not at all altered by being so reserved, even according to Bishop Poynet's argument. But Hesychius has in the same place some words that are a peremptory declaration against the doctrine of transubstantiation; for whereas in the eighth of Levit. ver. 31, Moses and his sons are commanded to eat the bread with the flesh; he says this was done, “*ut intelligeremus nos illud ab eo mysterium dici, quod simul panis et Caro est,*” that we might understand that mystery to be here meant by him (Moses), which is at the same time both bread and Flesh; bread in substance, Flesh in mystery. And though I will not say, that when any considerable quantity of the sacred symbols remained after celebration, and after provision was made for occasional uses, the clergy and people did nowhere eat and drink it; yet I take leave to observe, that the words of St. Jerome, or rather of Pelagius, or some other uncertain writer, whose works are commonly published among those of St. Jerome, to which Bishop Poynet here refers us, do not at all prove the regular practice of the Church, either in that age or any other. For the author was commenting on the first Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians, and describing the disorderly method of the people there in celebrating the Eucharist. I will transcribe the whole passage in the original Latin, that the reader may be satisfied that I do truly represent the case; “*'1 Cor. xi. 18. Convenientibus ergo vobis in unum, jam non est Dominicam,' &c.] Jam non est Dominica, sed humana; quando unusquisque tanquam cœnam propriam solus invadit: et alii qui non obtulerit, non impertit: ita ut magis propter saturitatem, quam propter mysterium videcamini convenire. Cæterum Dominica Cœna omnibus debet esse communis: quia Ille omnibus discipulis suis qui aderant, æqualiter tradidit Sacra menta. Cœna autem ideo dicitur, quia Dominus in Cœna tradidit Sacra menta. Item hoc ideo dicit: quia in Ecclesia convenientes, oblationes suas separatim offerebant: et post communionem, quæcunque eis de Sacrificiis superfluisserint, illic in Ecclesia communem cœnam comedentes, pariter consumebant.”—[Tom. v. p. 998. Ed. Ben.] In English, “Now this is*

Jerusalem teaches. Neither of which could have been rightly done, unless they had ceased to be Sacraments." He farther observes, that this doctrine of the Eucharist is not perplexed and difficult, but as clear and perspicuous as the nature of a mystery will permit it to be. No words of Scripture, no sayings of the Fathers contradict it; but all do harmoniously agree together. There are some, who cannot hear of the Sacraments being a sign or figure: they have here the Verity or thing itself acknowledged. They will have the substance of the Body; they see we affirm the substance to be present, and our communion with Christ naturally and substantially explained. We would not fall out about the words, though barbarous and unnecessary, if they meant such a change of substance as is made in a man regenerated by Baptism. We do not so much avoid the words, though some account is to be made of them, but we demand that signification which the Fathers teach us. We only reject the notion of eating flesh, which the Fathers also reject as impious, as repugnant to Scripture and the true faith^b.

not the Supper of the Lord, but of man, when every one seizes it as his own supper, and imparts nothing to him, who brought no offering; so that you seem to meet together to fill the belly, rather than for the sake of the mystery. Farther, the Lord's Supper ought to be common to all, because He equally delivered the Sacraments to all His disciples that were present. And it is called a Supper on this account, because the Lord delivered the Sacraments at Supper. And for this reason he says this; because when they met in the Church, they offered their oblations separately; and after the Communion, they consumed all that remained of the Sacrifices there in the Church, by eating together a common Supper." I cannot believe that the author in these words describes the usual commendable practice of Christians in that age wherein he wrote; or that he intended to propose the irregularities of the Corinthians to the imitation of posterity; but that he performs the part of an interpreter or historian, by nakedly relating the fact, which he supposed to be the occasion of the disorders committed in the Church of Corinth.

Lest my reader should be too free in condemning this most learned man, for

giving too much countenance to the Romish doctrine of the Real Presence, he may observe that the Waldenses, or (as the Reverend Mr. Dorrington says) the Bohemians, did publicly profess, that the Bread was not only the spiritual and blessed or consecrated, but the natural Body of Christ; they complain that their adversaries were not willing to believe them in this point, and therefore they repeat it again with more vehemence (to free themselves from all suspicion), that after the words of consecration pronounced by the Priest, the Bread is the very natural Body of Christ taken of the Virgin Mary. See their *Excusatio in Fascicul. Rerum*, vol. i. p. 181. ["De Corpore et Sanguine Christi sic credimus, quod post verbum per Sacerdotem recte consecratum quod statim panis est Corpus Christi verum naturale, sumptum ex Maria Virgine."] And yet in this same Apology they directly deny transubstantiation and the worship of the Host; nay, they were at that time under persecution, because they could not believe the one nor practise the other. And indeed to say that the Eucharistical Bread is the natural Body of Christ, is to suppose that the material Bread still remains.

^b p. 76. 81.

He concludes by praying to God, that He would remove from the minds of Pastors Doctors and Ministers of the Church the affectation of dispute and dominion, and compose their minds to peace and brotherly love; that they may not abuse this peculiar bond of charity (the Sacrament) delivered by Christ Himself to His Church, as a means of fomenting strife and faction, &c.

ANIMADVERSIONS

ON A BOOK WRITTEN BY THE REVEREND DR. THOMAS WISE^a, ENTITLED, “THE CHRISTIAN EUCHARIST RIGHTLY STATED, &c.” WHICH HE PUBLISHED CHIEFLY IN ANSWER TO A PRINTED LETTER, CALLED, “A SEASONABLE APOLOGY IN BEHALF OF THE REVEREND DR. GEORGE HICKES, &c.” WHICH LETTER WAS WRITTEN ON OCCASION OF A SERMON FREACHED BY DR. WISE, AT A VISITATION AT CANTERBURY, JUNE 1, 1710, IN WHICH THE SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST WAS OPPOSED, WHICH SERMON THE DOCTOR PRINTED.

THIS gentleman has given the world a specimen of a very singular disposition towards me; for he has once and again voted for me at the election of Proctors for this Diocese, and yet both preached and written against me. His favours I do hereby acknowledge; but I think I could not put a worse construction upon them than to suppose that he intended these votes as spells, to tie my hands and charm me out of my natural right of self-defence. Since his first voting for me, he has published many reflections in his “Christian Eucharist,” upon a book which was then generally known to be mine, I mean, the “Propitiatory Oblation.” By this he has made it evident, that notwithstanding his appearance of friendliness he thinks himself at liberty to attack me from the press or pulpit, and that therefore I am equally at liberty to repel him.

Whatever has any appearance of strength either in his Book or Sermon, and which any other man of middling judgment would have said upon the same occasion, is, I think, fully answered in the foregoing book; though I have rarely there mentioned his name or cited his words at large; not only because this would have made the volume swell without any just reason, but because I do not think that the Doctor

^a [The Editor has still to regret his having been unable to meet with a copy of this and the following Tract; they are not found in the Bodleian or the British Museum.]

has always given his citations, that are to the purpose, their full force, nor his arguments their true edge. And as for such citations as are of very small weight on his own side of the question, and such arguings as are peculiar to the Doctor, I have reserved them to be considered by themselves here at the end of the book, that so my reader might not, in the perusal of the “Unbloody Sacrifice,” be interrupted with matters, which are oftentimes not very pertinent to the subject. But, after all, one half of the book must for ever remain unanswered; I mean his high airs and all those sallies of an ill-governed fancy, with which his book abounds; in which I have no inclination to pursue him, and which I think nothing can excuse in a Divine, when he is treating of the Mysteries of religion, the *Arcana Regni*, which the very Angels desire to look into. Nor have I either leisure or emulation to strip him of those plumes he spreads, those ample vindications and encomiums of himself, with which his book is filled. I am very far from being an enemy to the Doctor or a detractor from his merits; yet I cannot at the same time dissemble my resentments and indignation at his awkward un-Doctor-ly way of treating his argument and his antagonist.

As for the sermon, there is nothing in it with which I shall detain my reader, but a marginal note, p. 15, where he speaks of a distinction made by St. Ignatius, “of three several parts or acts in the Holy Eucharist, namely, 1. $\pi\rho\sigma\phi\rho\acute{\alpha}$, ‘the bare offering Bread and Wine;’ 2. $\theta\nu\sigma\acute{\alpha}$, ‘the mystical commemoration of Christ’s Body and Blood;’ 3. $\delta\omega\chi\eta$, ‘a receiving and participation of the same.’” And could the Doctor believe, that an Apostolical man, a disciple of St. John, did really distinguish the sacred solemnity into these three parts, and yet remain unconvinced that the Eucharist was a Sacrifice? Was it possible for him to conceive, that the Holy Martyr affirmed that there was both an Oblation and a Sacrifice in the Eucharist, and yet not feel the force of such words? Can he in his own conscience think that he has answered this allegation, by saying, that “the Bread and Wine are symbols of Christ’s real Sacrifice?” For let us give this for granted; and may not symbols be really offered, and, by being offered, become a real Sacrifice? Were not all the

Levitical sacrifices intended by God, as types of Christ's Body? and yet will he dispute, whether they were sacrifices or not? Is there any possible answer to be made to so clear a proof? When he owns, "the words are the most significative of a real Sacrifice," could he be blind in such a sunshine? I desire the reader to take a measure of the Doctor's judgment from this single passage; and he will easily discern, that there is something in him that can turn the scale against the most weighty evidence. But what is yet more strange, these words are not in the genuine Epistle of St. Ignatius to the Smyrnæans, but in the interpolated only. And I cannot but admire to see a gentleman of the Doctor's elevation refer us to the authority of a spurious writer directly and unquestionably for the doctrine of the Sacrifice, without taking any notice or giving the least hint that it is not genuine; it is such an authority as wants nothing to render it perfectly unanswerable but only this, that the words to which he refers are not the words of the real Ignatius, as our Doctor took them to be. I can heartily forgive the Doctor a great many such mistakes; but, sure, when he reflects on it, he will never be able to forgive himself. He in vain cites Mr. Mede and Dr. Hickes to patronize him in this foul error. Mr. Mede's Discourses on this subject were written before the Medicean copy of Ignatius's Epistles was published by Vossius; and Dr. Hickes, in the place referred to, says not one word of Ignatius or his Epistles.

The capital argument used by the Doctor to prove the Eucharist no Sacrifice is this, that it is called the Body and Blood of Christ as well as a Sacrifice; and if we do not believe it to be the real Body and Blood, why should we believe it to be a real Sacrifice? This he mentions in the fifteenth page of his Sermon; and with this he begins his arguings in his book. But, if nothing can be a real Sacrifice but the real Body of Christ, this annuls not only the Sacrifice of the Eucharist, but all other sacrifices, except that which was offered by Christ Jesus in person; and this makes clear work indeed: and though the Scriptures and the ancients often call the Eucharist the Body and Blood, yet they give us to understand too, that the Bread and Wine remains. Nay, the Fathers often call the Bread and Wine, the symbols,

types, and figures, of the natural Body and Blood, as has been plentifully proved. And when the Doctor can shew that any of the ancients, when they call the Eucharist a Sacrifice, do by any additional words give us to understand that they mean not a proper Sacrifice (as they evidently tell us they mean not the natural Body and Blood), then we should own that this argument were plausible. The places cited from St. Chrysostom and others, who affirm it only to be a Memorial or Commemoration, have been particularly considered in the foregoing book; and it has been shewed, that a commemorative sacrifice may have all the properties of a real sacrifice, and that they all meet together in the Eucharist. And the Doctor would have saved me this reflection, if he had pleased to remember that the Eucharist is called a Sacrifice by the ancients, not only because it represents a Sacrifice, but because it is actually offered; and that in the first Eucharist Christ "gave His Body" to God by the symbols of Bread and Wine.

P. 18, 19. That the Eucharistical Oblations, and, among these, Bread and Wine, were in the primitive Church "offered by the eternal law of nature at the Holy Table, called also an Altar," is a direct contradiction to his own cause; for it supposes Oblations to be a law of nature, and therefore obligatory in all times and places. My Lord B. of N. [Bishop of Norwich] censures me for saying, that Oblation of Bread and Wine is to be made by the law of the Church of England; but, if it be required by the law of nature, then I hope none will suppose that such Oblations are not to be made in our Church, except they are disposed to make the laws of nature and the Church repugnant to each other. Here I shall leave him to the correction of his own friends.

P. 19. He tells us the manner of making these Oblations was "with Holy Eucharists, and blessings, and saying of Grace;—first by the people in general then by the administering Priest." Saying of Grace? Is this the language of a Doctor of Divinity? I should rather call it the cant of the Rights-men and Grecians, the Deists and scoffers. The latter indeed apply this phrase to the most solemn consecration; our Doctor here means it of the supposed previous devotions, and therefore is one step behind them. If the Doctor could

help us to the sight of one of those prayers or ‘Graces,’ as he chooses to speak, which was said, “first by the people in general” over the Oblations; or produce any proof, that any such prayer was made by them, distinct from what was pronounced by the Priest; I dare say, all antiquarians would acknowledge it a great rarity: and I will engage, that the gentlemen just now mentioned, the Rights-men and Deists, will in a very special manner express their obligations to him; but until this be done, I must believe it an invention of his own, and a very sorry one too. For certainly the people in the primitive Church were not to eat and drink the oblations they brought, excepting only that small portion, that was singled out to be consecrated into the Eucharistical Body and Blood. I think it is allowed, that the *περισσεύματα*, mentioned in the eighth book of the Constitutions, were the Bread and Wine offered by the people, remaining over and above what was taken out and consecrated for the Eucharistical Body and Blood. These are, by that Constitution, directed to be divided by determined proportions between the Bishop, Clergy, and Deaconesses; the people had no share of them. If the people in the Church of Alexandria were allowed to partake of the *Perisseumata*, yet this must be allowed to have been peculiar to them^b. And no oblations but those of Bread and Wine were necessarily and perpetually offered on the Altar. Now to make the people say grace over those offerings which were to be eaten by others, was a most incongruous fancy. Once a year indeed, grapes and ears of corn were permitted by the Apostolical Canon to be offered; and these were wholly or chiefly intended to be eaten by those who brought them, if we may believe the Scholiasts; but these offerings were no part of the Eucharist, properly so called. I know some would persuade us, that the Love-feasts were furnished out of the remainder of the Altar-oblations; but this is mere supposition, and may be confuted out of the Constitution now mentioned, by which the *Perisseumata* are ordered to be shared out between the Bishop and Clergy.

P. 20. He argues (if I may so say) again from the interpolation of St. Ignatius.

Ibid. As to the passage from St. Cyprian, which the Doctor

^b See Can. 7. Theophil. Alexandr.

here cites, I have particularly considered it, Chap. II. Sect. 1. of the foregoing book. He observes, that St. Augustine calls the Eucharist "the Sacrament of memorial;" and do we deny it this title? But the Doctor may see that he calls it a Sacrifice^c, and not a Sacrament; would the Doctor from thence argue, that he did not believe it to be a Sacrament?

P. 22, 23. He labours to prove that gifts and sacrifices are distinct things; but it is very certain, that the ancients did not nicely observe this distinction. The lay-oblations were sometimes called 'Sacrifices^d'; and the consecrated symbols are sometimes called 'Gifts^e' Nay, the Levitical sacrifices, both as to those portions which were offered to God and those which were to be eaten by the priests, are by the LXX called $\delta\omega\rho\alpha\ \Theta\epsilon o\nu$, Lev. xxi. 6, 8, 21, 22; for these Interpreters, by 'the Bread' or Food 'of God,' understood the holy penman to mean, whatever was in especial manner given or offered on the altar to God.

P. 24. He argues thus; "If the oblations were a true Sacrifice, there were two other proper material Sacrifices in the Eucharist, namely, that part of the oblations which supplied the Holy Supper, and the other remaining part from which it was taken." This is very arch indeed, and a clear proof, that the Doctor has not forgot the doctrine of sophisms. Thus the Doctor's book is three books; for the Christian Eucharist, which contains the whole volume, is one, the Reply to the Apology is a second, and the Reply to the Letter for Transubstantiation a third. The Bread and Wine, consecrated and offered as the representative Body and Blood, are strictly speaking the only Sacrifice: it might as rationally be said, that what of the sin-offering and peace-offering remained after the oblation was a distinct sacrifice, as that the remaining part of the Eucharistical Bread and Wine are so.

Ibid. He mistakes Tertullian's *Agape* for the Eucharist. The worship of Christians had been spoken of in the foregoing part of the Apology; here he speaks of the Christian Supper, and says^f, "When we are at the charge of an enter-

^c a. p. 31. f. p. 31. H. and I. p. 36. Ap.

^d See Chap. II. Sect. 4.

^e See Liturg. Clem. d. p. 54. Ap. Liturg. S. Jacobi, i. b. 55. Ap.

^f [Cœna nostra de nomine rationem sui ostendit. Id vocatur quod dilectio penes Græcos. Quantiscunque sumptibus constet; lucrum est pie-

tainment, it is to refresh the bowels of the needy; you (heathen,) gorge the parasites—we feed the hungry, because we know God takes a peculiar delight in seeing us do it. I leave you from hence to guess at the rest of our discipline in matters of pure religion," &c.; these are the words of the most ingenious Mr. Reeves's translation, and cannot be applied to the Eucharist.

P. 25. He musters up the old argument against the Sacrifice, viz., that Jews and heathens told the Christians, that they had neither sacrifices nor altars; "real" and "material" are his own additions; "and I do not find," says he, "that the ancients ever directly answered, that they had any; but only that, in conformity a little to the Jews and heathens, they had what might go by the name of sacrifices and altars." Now I challenge him to produce any single Father that ever gave the least occasion for this imputation. I have said enough as to this particular in the present treatise, and the Propitiatory Oblation, p. 78, 79. But, in truth, the Doctor seems to have taken Julian the Apostate for an ancient Father; for he says something more like what the Doctor imputes to them than any thing that was ever said by them. You have it in the Doctor's own translation in the next page, viz., "You Christians have found out a new sacrifice:—why do you not offer sacrifice?" The primitive Fathers were so far from humouring the Jews or heathens, in telling them that they had something that might go by the name of sacrifice, that they seldom spake apertly to them of any sacrifice they had. Justin Martyr is the only instance of doing this, that I have ever met with; but they spake of a sacrifice freely and in words at length to their own people, who were the only persons concerned to know it. He cites Cyril of Alexandria for extolling the internal sacrifices of the mind; we can readily subscribe to all that Cyril is here cited for. He lays some stress upon Cyril's using the word *ἀὐλος*, as if he was ignorant that the ancients denied the

tatis nomine facere sumptum. Si quidem inopes quosque refrigerio isto juvamus, non quā penes vos parasiti affectant ad gloriam famulanda libertatis sub auctoramento ventris inter contumelias saginandi; sed quā penes

Deum major est contemplatio mediocriū. Si honesta causa est convivii, reliquum ordinem disciplinae aestimare qui sit de religionis officio." —Apolog., p. 32. Ed. Par. 1664.]

Oblation of Bread and Wine in the Eucharist to be a corporeal oblation.

P. 28. Here he speaks of “the contention of great wits” in the citation of a learned modern, and would have us believe, that “much light of truth is drawn out from the striking of two flints one against another.” The reader will easily guess whom he meant by one of these flints; and he is willing to let his adversary be the other rather than lose the advantage of so apt a comparison.

P. 29. Here he introduces a very learned man saying that St. Cyril of Alexandria allows “no sacrifice properly so called, whether bloody or unbloody, among Christians, saving that of the Cross.” My reader will rather believe St. Cyril himself, whose authority for the Sacrifice I have produced in the foregoing book, than either the Doctor or his learned man; especially because they produce no such words from St. Cyril as do at all countenance this notion.

P. 30. He owns, the Fathers not only called the Bread and Wine a Sacrifice, but a ‘true’ and ‘propitiatory’ Sacrifice; but denies that they thought them so in themselves. If he means, that the Eucharistical Sacrifice offered by us is not propitiatory, if considered abstractedly from the Mactation on the Cross, we readily confess it. Nay, we say that no sacrifice but that of Christ Jesus was propitiatory, if by ‘propitiatory’ be meant, ‘in itself satisfactory;’ but, instead of proving that it is not propitiatory (in virtue of the principal Sacrifice), he is content to say that “it is not a representative Sacrifice;” which is what he was to have proved.

P. 31. Here he would have it thought, that “a representative commemorative Sacrifice cannot be a real one,” but he gives us no reason why we should think as he does; and, having observed that St. Chrysostom tells us, “we are to do this in remembrance of what Christ once did,” and added “on the Cross,” (which is the Doctor’s own comment,) he says, “So must this Father be understood, when saying, that Christ has changed the sacrifice and commanded us to offer Himself instead of the sacrifices of brute creatures;” and immediately goes on, “wherefore I tell you, though the ancients called the Bread and Wine a real Sacrifice, yet can you not from hence infer it to be indeed one.” This I give

my reader as a specimen of the Doctor's arguing and inferring. I suppose the strength of the argument lies in those words, 'I tell you ;' for if it had not been for those words, I should have concluded that St. Chrysostom asserted a real Sacrifice in the words last mentioned ; and so I believe will my reader think that the Doctor ought to have done ; for nothing is more usual with the ancients than by the Sacrifice of Christ to mean the Sacrifice of His Eucharistical Body and Blood.

P. 32. To shew that the Fathers spake figuratively, when they called the Eucharist "a Sacrifice, though not when they called it a Sacrament," he argues, that if they had, "there would have been sign upon sign, figure upon figure;" but what he means by it, he does not tell us. It is the Sacrament, which, we assert, is offered by a real act of oblation ; and how this can add sign to sign, I conceive not, except he could prove that the act of oblation was only figurative and not real. To support this, he adds, "Bread and Wine did not pass under the name of a Sacrifice, until made a Sacrament;" which is neither true, nor, if it were true, would it at all help his cause : to mend the matter, he adds these words, "as St. Ignatius remarks." Now where did St. Ignatius ever make this remark ? He directs us in the margin to his Epistle to the Smyrnæans, and therefore undoubtedly means the interpolated words mentioned twice before in his Sermon, p. 15, in his Book, p. 20 ; and yet there is no mention of a Sacrament. The words, which he is so very fond of, are these, "Without a Bishop it is not lawful to offer or to present a Sacrifice, or to make a distribution of it," as Dr. W. supposes ; but, as Primate Ussher more probably says, "to make a love-feast." If the reader can see any thing like a proof on Dr. W.'s side, it is more than I can do ; though I can easily discern, that they are full of proof against him.

P. 33. He observes, Dr. Hickes puts the word 'Sacrifice' before 'Sacrament ;' and from thence argues, that he reckons the Eucharist a Sacrifice on account of the previous oblation ; and from thence concludes Dr. Hickes to be "inconsistent with himself." But why? Because Dr. W. had told us before, that "as St. Ignatius remarked," so did Dr. Hickes too, and indeed both alike, that "the Bread and Wine did

not pass under the name of Sacrifice, until made a Sacrament. Dr. Hickes indeed cites a common saying, *Dona sunt quæ Deo donantur, Sacrificia, quæ cum orationibus consecrantur*, in the place here referred to; but will Dr. W. infer, that any thing is no sacrifice because it is a gift; or that it ceases to be a gift, when it becomes a sacrifice? It is further owned, that Dr. Hickes asserts, that, by the Liturgy of K. Edward VI., "the Holy Gifts are presented to God on the Altar; then consecrated, by prayer, for the Eucharist." And if the Doctor thought that what had been offered on an Altar might properly be styled a Sacrifice, who can blame him or disprove him? But, after all, suppose the Doctor had never so flatly asserted, that Bread and Wine are a Sacrament before they are a Sacrifice, where and how does he contradict this? Why, Dr. W. tells us, that he says, "Sacrifice and Sacrament;" to which I will only say, that if I should make a collection of Dr. W.'s inconsistencies, no better grounded than this which he charges on Dr. Hickes, and produce all the *Hystera-protera* in his Book and Sermon, and draw inferences from them, as he does in this place, I will be bound to prove, that he holds heresies and heterodoxies, which he never yet heard or thought of; but there is no occasion for him that writes against Dr. W. to hunt for such small game as this.

He in the same place cites St. Ambrose or rather Hilary the Deacon, for saying, *Una est hæc Hostia, non multæ*; which, he falsely says, is to be understood of "the Sacrifice of the Cross, and no more." It was meant of the Grand Sacrifice, faithfully and authoritatively represented in the Eucharist; and this is indeed "the vote of all Antiquity," who speak of the Eucharist, in all times and places, as One Bread and One Sacrifice. In this and the next page he sides with the Papists for their Sacrifice of Transubstantiation against Dr. Hickes's and the Apologist's Sacrifice of Bread and Wine; and expressly asserts that they "talk more absurdly than even the Romanists," and cites Bellarmine, Maldonatus, and Salmeron, against a Sacrifice of Bread and Wine; and yet has the face to complain of his adversary for "leading him a dance to downright Transubstantiation." Now the reader is judge, which of the two are most inclined to the Romish Sacrifice, the Apologist,

who asserts the opinion of Dr. Hickes, (who is expressly for a Sacrifice of Bread and Wine,) or Dr. W., who in this respect sides with the Jesuits against him. And here I cannot but reflect on the disingenuous proceedings of Dr. W., who has sprinkled his whole book with malicious insinuations of Dr. Hickes's inclinations to Popery, and of his too favourable opinion of Transubstantiation; and yet, here and in other places, thinks he has great advantage of him for asserting a Sacrifice of Bread and Wine, and declares this to be more absurd than Transubstantiation. They, who indulge themselves in the most unchristian and diabolical practice of accusing their brethren of a crime so very black and flagrant, should take special care so to contrive their calumnies, that they may at least be consistent and hang together; for those slanders, that confute themselves (which is the present case), do at once absolve the party accused, and convict the *delator* of forgery and nonsense both in one. We know the devil to be the common father of lies, especially such as are malicious; but, in the case now before us, I can see none of the craft or subtlety of the old serpent; the Doctor, in contriving this calumny, was left, I charitably believe, to his own natural invention; I cannot say, the Doctor has the innocence of the dove, nor yet can I allow him the cunning of the serpent; he abounds with gall, but he wants the sting. He, that would make a Sacrifice of Bread and Wine more absurd than the Sacrifice of Transubstantiation, and would in the same breath condemn his adversary for a Papist for asserting the former and denying the latter, must give his reader leave to call in question his judgment, his understanding, and even his senses; and I am very sure I am not transported beyond the bounds of strict truth in what I now say. No Protestant can believe, that to assert the Eucharist to be Bread and Wine has any manner of absurdity in it; and, if Bread and Wine be there, there can be no absurdity in offering them to God, even though we were not obliged to offer them; except you will say, that whatever is not commanded is absurd. However, it is not so absurd to offer Bread and Wine, which we are sure are there, as to suppose (contrary to common sense) that the substance of the Body and Blood are there, and to pretend to offer them as such; and he, whose

understanding and senses cannot inform and convince him of this, must be allowed to be very defective in both, and very open to the artifices of the Jesuits; and I should not at all wonder to see such a man converted to Popery, especially if he were turned out of his preferment in the Church of England and put to shifts to get his daily bread, which has been the case of the Non-jurors; and therefore I cannot but take this opportunity of declaring, that I look on them to be the men that have given the greatest proof of their obstinate aversion to Popery, of any in the whole kingdom. Dr. W. and I do not know what it is for Clergymen to be denied a subsistence in the Church, and to be treated as criminals for acting according to conscience, and to see others rewarded with preferment for insulting and abusing us; and they who, notwithstanding this hard usage, are firm to the Church, and deaf to the arguments and invitations of the Papists, nay, zealous against their errors and forward to oppose them, shew themselves to be Christians and Protestants in earnest; and on this account should be regarded as some of our truest and fastest friends; and he, who is now the most conspicuous among them and who has most remarkably distinguished himself in these particulars, is one of the last of all men living, that a Doctor of Divinity should have singled out, on whom to disgorge his choler and slander. I will not say, that they have been guilty of no excesses; even the patience of Job did not preserve him from some intemperate words; but I cannot but believe them truer friends to Religion than those who have with the greatest violence opposed them, and better subjects to the Queen than those Deists and fanatics that have taken the oaths.

P. 44. Here he supposes ‘mystical’ to be opposed to ‘real;’ but without any grounds. The Eucharist is a real feast, and yet a mystical one; and why not a real though mystical Sacrifice, as well as a real and mystical feast?

P. 45. He would not have us think Mr. Mede so much our friend, as we imagine; because he says “the Eucharist is nothing but the Sacrifice of Christ again and again commemorated,” as if we said otherwise: then he cites the passage in Irenæus, which the reader may see in the Appendix^g, which

is as directly for the Sacrifice, as anything the Doctor is able to say can be against it; and presently cries out, “Will ye after all this assert the Lord’s Supper to be a true Sacrifice?” He had just before cited the words of Chrysostom, mentioned p. 31; so little is he capable of discerning between his friends and foes.

P. 46. He supposes, we give up the words ‘true’ and ‘proper’ Sacrifice, when we call the Eucharist an Oblation; and yet he is never pleased to inform us, wherein the one does essentially differ from the other. The author of the Propitiatory Oblation has sufficiently explained himself in that treatise, and this; and as to the Doctor’s comment upon it, (as he calls it,) he leaves it to the reader’s judgment: yet I cannot but desire the reader to observe, how far I gave up the word ‘Sacrifice’ in the book cited by the Doctor; which he will easily apprehend by the following words, viz., “I rather choose to use the phrase of a Propitiatory Oblation than the word Sacrifice; because the word Sacrifice does, for the most part and in common acceptation, signify ‘to slay in order to offer up.’ I know that it is sometimes otherwise understood, and that it is often applied by the ancients to the Oblation in the Eucharist—and therefore I lay aside the word at present, rather that the reader may better understand me, than that I shall uncharitably misunderstand others, that are disposed still to make use of it^h.”

P. 54. His words to the gentleman, against whom he writes, in this place are very remarkable, viz., “It is the general opinion, that I have here done you too much honour by standing to parley with you thus long.” I was much startled at this passage; because it supposes, that he knew what the “general opinion” of men was concerning his present performance, before he had finished one fourth part of it. I was more surprised yet, when I met with those words, (p. 89,) viz., “The printer, as he has been the last, so he has always been the first, that has so much as seen what I have hitherto done, and do now publish.” These two passages I could not for a while look upon, as otherwise than a flat contradiction; the first supposes, that the generality knew how long he had been parleying with his adversary, and how much honour he

^h Prop. Oblat., pp. 8, 9.

had done him in his present writings ; but the latter declares it to have been a secret to all, till it came to the press. It concerned me much to understand my author's phrase and way of expression ; and at last I apprehend I have found the key to it. The Doctor, you are to understand, takes it for granted, that whatever he wots or conceives must be "the general opinion ;" which is a very modest and acute way of judging, and lets us into his meaning, when he says of his sermon, that "it met with a general approbation¹." In both cases you are to conceive that he summoned a council of all his faculties, and all these did unanimously give their suffrage in favour of their master and his performances. For the future, I shall perfectly well understand the Doctor, when he speaks of "the general opinion" and of "a general approbation."

P. 121. "Eucharist," he says, "in the abstract, is applied to the Lord's Supper ;" and says, "It is purely thanksgiving, prayer, and praise,—spiritual, mental, and rational ;" in a word, one of George Foxe's sacrifices ; and yet, p. 165, he cites Origen for saying, "the Bread, called the Eucharist ;" and even in this page he says, "The Sacrifice of Christ is represented in Bread and Wine," and yet denies it to be a "material Sacrifice, except the extremes of a contradiction can be reconciled." I refer him to Chap. II. Sect. 1. of the foregoing treatise.

P. 131. I overlook his glozing addresses to himself, and to the very great man (whom I honour), as the very *Pudenda* of his book.

P. 132, &c. He tells us, "Where the Bishop is, there is no such thing as party," and refers to St. Ignatius for a proof of it. And I own this is true of a Bishop sound in the Faith and true to his character, of an Ignatian Bishop, of a Bishop that does not abandon his Altar ; for the Martyr's rule is, "One Bishop, One Altar ;" upon this condition I join issue with him.

P. 158. He supposes that I am against the notion of a real Altar, because I call it a "Communion-Table," in the "Propitiatory Oblation ;" as if, when I call a man a Minister or Clergyman, I deny him to be a real Priest.

P. 160. To prove that the word 'Offer' does not signify

¹ See Advertisement before the Sermon.

strictly ‘to sacrifice,’ he produces these words of St. Cyprian, *Sacrificia pro iis semper offerimus, quoties Martyrum passiones celebamus*^k; he might well be afraid to give them in English, for then even his female readers would have seen that they prove the direct contrary. He asks his adversary, “how he would construe these words.” I answer for him, that they are capable of no other just rendition but this, “We always offer Sacrifices for them, as often as we celebrate the passions of the Martyrs;” by them meaning several great men, before mentioned by St. Cyprian. He introduces this citation with the following words, (speaking to his adversary), “Sir, you are a strange man at extorting; you will get out of me a great deal of what I intended to have reserved, if ever I do myself the honour to hold a personal conference with Dr. Hickes.” This it seems was some of that light, which he speaks of before, that was to have been “drawn” (as he expresses it) from this flinty wit, when it came to a collision. If this were one of the chief of those rarities, which he kept *in petto* for a personal congress, Dr. Hickes would have obtained a very cheap victory; for it is plain, he has an adversary that at every turn stabs himself with his own sword. He cites Rigaltius on these words of St. Cyprian, but to what purpose I cannot see; for Rigaltius does not say that *offerre Sacrificium* does not signify “to offer Sacrifice,” and yet nothing less than this can do the Doctor any service.

Ibid. To prove that ‘to offer Sacrifice,’ in the language of the Christian Church, is not to be taken in a proper sense, “What,” says he, “if it had been, as in the first and second Canons of Ancyra, *Διακόνους θύσαντας*, who yet, even according to you, had no authority (strictly speaking) to offer Sacrifice?” The words are dark; but this is plain, that he supposes by the ‘Sacrificing Deacons’ is meant, ‘Deacons celebrating the Eucharist.’ Now in the first of these Canons there is not one word of Deacons; but it forbids Priests, who had sacrificed to idols in the persecution, to make the Christian Oblation, or to preach; the first clause of the second Canon is this, *Διακόνους ὄμοιώς θύσαντας, μετὰ δὲ ταῦτα ἀναπαλαίσαντας τὴν μὲν ἄλλην τιμὴν ἔχειν, πεπαῦσθαι δὲ αὐτὸὺς πάσης τῆς ἱερατικῆς λειτουργίας τῆς τε τοῦ ἄρτου ἥ*

^k Ep. 34. p. 47. Ed. Paris. 1726.

ποτήριον ἀναφέρειν, η̄ κηρύσσειν. “That, in like manner, Deacons, that have sacrificed but have afterwards entered the conflict, do cease from all attendance on the Priest and from distributing the Bread and Cup, but retain all other honour.” It is exceeding strange, that the Doctor could not distinguish between offering Christian and heathen sacrifice ; especially since Balsamon, Zonaras, and Aristenus, are so clear and unanimous in the point ; and the first Canon explains the second. It is true, the word, which I here render ‘distribute,’ may in strictness be turned ‘offer ;’ and there may be an instance or two in Latin Antiquity, where the Bread or Cup are said to be offered to the people : but this way of speaking is so very rare, that nothing can be built upon it ; and, since we are sure that, when it is so used, it imports no more than ‘giving’ or ‘distributing,’ I have rendered it accordingly. Dr. Wise here produces no proof of it, but only his *Διακόνους θύσαντας*, and a reference to the Latin Translation of the eighty Nicene Canons from the Arabic ; which are of no authority, and the Translation so obscure, and the sense so uncertain, that nothing can safely be inferred from it. The words stand thus, *Publice autem Sacrificium offerant [Monachi] in ejusmodi locis diebus festis—Quia, ubi est Altare, ibi oportet celebrare festos dies, convenire Diaconos, et rite offerre Sacrificium, et adimplere ceremonias, &c.* which I should thus render, “ Let [the Monks] publicly offer the Sacrifice in such places on the festivals—for, where there is an Altar, there it is fit to celebrate the festivals, to convene the Deacons, to offer the Sacrifice with proper rites, and to consummate the ceremonies.” The Doctor says, “ Deacons are said by the ancients, *rite offerre Sacrificium* ;” and in his margin refers to these Arabic Canons, in the second tome of Labbe’s Councils, p. 351, for the proof of it. I find nothing like it in p. 351 ; but in p. 352 are the words above produced. The forgers of the Arabic Nicene Canons are his ancients ; yet I do not find that any but Turrianus the Jesuit and some other bigots of the Church of Rome have ever said one word in their behalf : and if they did never so clearly speak his sense, yet I should not think it any detriment to the cause I plead, to give the authors and translators of these Canons up to the Doctor, as adversaries, not to the Sacrifice,

but to the sole right, which Bishops and Priests have, to offer it. He runs to forgers of the seventh or eighth century to prove that Deacons may sacrifice ; but neither do these forgers speak his sense.

P. 164. He would have it thought, that his adversary does oftenest say, that “the Eucharist is a Sacrifice, on account of the previous Oblation of Bread and Wine.” Why should the Doctor trouble his own or his reader’s head with such airy useless doubts and speculations ? Whatever was brought to the temple in order to be offered on the altar was called a sacrifice, whether it were still under the hands of the lay-offerer, or actually presented to the priest.

P. 165. “Not,” says he, “that the Gifts or Bread and Wine were this Eucharist ;” and, to prove this, he cites the words of Origen, as above, “the Bread, called Eucharist,” and he adds, “The Bread and Wine, barely as offered at the Holy Table, were not this Eucharist or thanksgiving for the particular benefits of the sufferings of Christ, but symbols of Eucharist or gratitude to God for all His blessings.” These are his words ; what were his thoughts, we are left to guess.

P. 168. As to his proof, that, if the Bread and Wine be a real Sacrifice, then Incense must be so too ; I answer, that Incense is no Evangelical sacrifice : neither the Apostles, nor the primitive Church of the first three hundred and fifty or four hundred years did use it, as Mr. Dodwell has lately proved in his book on this subject. If it had been a Gospel-Sacrifice, that is, if it had been a representation of some other thing, that might prevail with God to bestow His mercies on us, and as such presented to Him, it had undoubtedly been a spiritual Sacrifice too ; and the Doctor himself tells us, that in St. James’s and St. Chrysostom’s Liturgy, it was called a “spiritual odour ;” and this is a proof, that, not only in the very primitive but in the middle ages, it was not thought an inconsistency to call a material thing ‘a spiritual sacrifice.’ And though some later Liturgies do direct the Priest vocally to offer up the Incense ; yet, by the second Apostolical Canon, where Incense is first mentioned, the Bishop or Priest is charged to offer Bread and Wine only in the Sacrifice ; the Oil and Incense are permitted to be placed on the Altar, as mere lay-oblations ; and even this sentence

in the Apostolical Canons seems to be an interpolation of later ages.

P. 169. The Doctor would have it, that by “the Gift brought to God,” in the Clementine Liturgy^l, is meant Christ Himself; forgetting, that Prayer is there made, “that it may be received up to the Heavenly Altar :” and yet perhaps he had some suspicions of his mistake, for he adds, “but rather the symbol ;” and of this he justly understands “the Pure Gift” in the fifth Nicene Canon. And I should have thought, that he understood some words of St. Chrysostom there cited in the same sense, as he ought to do, and so will every one else that reads his words before the citation ; but, having imperfectly repeated St. Chrysostom’s words, he shuffles in some words of his own to persuade his reader that Chrysostom meant “a gift from Christ to His disciples” and not to God. He cites St. Jerome, calling the Eucharist a ‘pledge,’ which our Saviour gave to His disciples upon His departure from them to remind them of His love ; and he might have cited Gaudentius^m, to the same purpose : nor is this at all inconsistent with the notion of a Sacrifice ; the Passover was both a sacrifice and a pledge, and was intended by God to preserve the memory of His love to them always fresh upon their minds.

P. 172. Here our Doctor maims a citation from Tertullian, which I will therefore give my reader more fully. *Et in omni loco Sacrificium Nomini Meo offertur* (Mal. i. 11) *et Sacrificium mundum, gloriae scilicet relatio, et benedictio, et laus, et hymni.* *Quae omnia cum in te deprehendantur, et signaculum frontium, et Ecclesiarum Sacraenta, et munditiae Sacrificiorum, debes jam erumpere, uti dicas, Spiritum Creatoris Tuo Christo prophetasse*ⁿ. Dr. W. supposes, that he calls the ‘giving glory,’ &c., “the purity of the Sacrifices ;” whereas, in truth, he makes ‘the purity of the Sacrifices’ a thing clearly distinct from ‘giving glory,’ ‘praise,’ &c., and if ‘the purity of the Sacrifices’ are explanatory words, they must be supposed to relate to what goes just before, viz., ‘the Sacraents of the Churches ;’ for it is not unusual with the ancients to call the Bread and Wine ‘Sacraents’ or

^l d. p. 54. Ap.

^m c. p. 30. Ap.

ⁿ [Adv. Marcionem, lib. iii. p. 410.]

'Mysteries' in the plural number, as has been once and again observed in the foregoing treatise.

P. 173. If there must be a Sacrifice, the Doctor is for continuing that of the Passover; and so will we, when he has produced one good authority for it from Scripture and pure antiquity.

P. 175. He makes the great Athanasius call the heathen sacrifices 'real,' in opposition to that of the Eucharist. *Risum teneatis?* But the work here cited is not entirely St. Athanasius's; nor is there one tittle of Sacrificing in the words cited by him.

But his master-piece of critique is, that *μεμνημένοι προσφέρομεν* in all the ancient Liturgies is to be rendered by 'remembering we offer:' he ought in justice to have added 'this Bread and this Cup;' for the Clementine Liturgy has these words immediately following the word 'offer,' and all the other Liturgies have words denoting the same things; and how the bare act of reminiscence can offer Bread and Wine will be a difficulty too hard for the Doctor to solve.

p. 176. He has a criticism like this upon the words of St. Justin Martyr^o; he would have *ποιεῖν* be rendered *conficere*, 'to make bread and wine,' or what else you please, so it may not signify 'to offer;' and, to confute this Father, he thus argues, "But however I say that, not the Bread and Wine appointed for the said purpose, but the sacrifice of prayer, praise, &c., is the true Christian Eucharist or Sacrifice;" who can resist such reason, such authority?

P. 176. As to his citation from Eusebius^r he mis-translates it thus, "We offer Sacrifice and Incense—while we celebrate,—and offer the Eucharist, &c." The true rendition is, "We both sacrifice and offer Incense; the one we do, while we celebrate—and offer the Eucharist or Sacrifice of thanksgiving for [our] salvation by hymns, &c., the other we do, when we offer ourselves, &c.;" for, by confounding the 'Pure Offering' in Malachi with the 'Incense,' he would make the former as well as latter seem a mere mental action. All that here follows has been effectually answered in this book.

P. 177. It is strange, that the Doctor will not allow, that *ἀναιμάκτορος θυσίας* can signify anything but prayer and

^o b. p. 3. Ap.

^r g. p. 16. Ap.

praise in Chrysostom and Ecumenius, when he himself acknowledges, p. 276, that in the citation from Plutarch, to which I had directed him in the Propitiatory Oblation, an unbloody sacrifice is a sacrifice of bread and wine, and he has not produced a single proof that it ever has any other meaning. The unbloody Sacrifices of Christians are offered by our lips, as Ecumenius in this citation declares; because the Oblation is made by prayer, not by blood and fire.

P. 178. This citation from Justin Martyr is particularly considered, Chap. II. Sect. 2.

P. 179. Here begins a paragraph, which is continued without interruption to p. 293, which is the longest that I think I ever observed; but (which makes the matter worse,) this paragraph is only part of an interlocution, which the Doctor very naturally makes in his own person in a dialogue betwixt himself and his adversary; the whole interlocution contains 154 pages (if I number rightly,) viz., from p. 160 to p. 314. Many a good book is less in bulk, and few ill ones contain more numerous mistakes. However he was resolved to outdo his adversary in multiplicity of words, for to all this the poor apologist is permitted to answer but in five lines and a half; and yet I cannot but think that the Doctor has been so just as to let him say what is a full answer to all this long interlocution, in little more than a line and a half of those words which the Doctor put in his mouth. I have more regard to the Doctor than to repeat them, for they will be thought a reflection from my pen; but the Doctor took a just liberty in making bold with himself. The reader may have them for looking in p. 314, and they are as well worth his perusal as any in the whole book; they stand very legible in the very front of the apologist's reply.

P. 180. He proves very fully, that prayers and praises were offered in the Eucharist, which I suppose nobody ever denied; but then he mentions Cyril of Jerusalem, as speaking of “‘ a prayer, while the holy and tremendous Sacrifice lay in open view,’ which, by the bye,” says the Doctor, “will you construe literally? Here we have a rational Sacrifice . . .” Then he proceeds to Origen's words^q; and to prove that Origen

^q b. p. 10. Ap.

meant not a proper Sacrifice, he says, "It is not offered by a Priest;" to prove, that it is not offered by a Priest, he cites some words from Bishop Jewell, so far from his purpose, that the Bishop declares, "This I mean not of ministration of Sacraments;" nor is there one word of Origen mentioned in that place by the author, whom he cites page 181. The reader can scarcely believe this credible, unless he please to convince himself by ocular inspection.

P. 182. He produces Tertullian in his Apologetic, c. 30, speaking of "offering prayer to God;" and, because he could not but be conscious that this was nothing to his purpose, he adds, "and no material thing;" which are words of the Doctor's own invention.

P. 183. Here he would prove that St. Augustine knew of no human sacrifice, because he says, "If you ask for the Priest (High-Priest he means) He is above the heavens." This High-Priest was in heaven during the Levitical economy; were there, therefore, no priests in the temple?

P. 184. The Doctor observes that, though the adduction of the Gifts to the Holy Table did not make them a perfect sacrifice, yet a more particular benediction of them might. He grants such a benediction was used in some of the ancient Liturgies, and produces the words of one of them, viz. "Bless the Prothesis, accept the Sacrifice;" he does not here say, from what Liturgy he has these words; but p. 22. he cites them as from St. Chrysostom's Liturgy, published by Erasmus, which is a book I never saw: but, without seeing it, I may dare say that these words are part of the Prothesis, that is, the Service used at the buffet or side-Altar, before the adduction of the elements to the Altar, properly so called; for I apprehend the elements are never called the Prothesis, after they are taken from the side-Altar, in those Liturgies which have a Prothesis; and therefore these words must, I suppose, be as distant from the Benediction or Consecration, as the beginning of the Office is from the most solemn part of the consecrative Prayer, following, in all Liturgies, the commemorative Oblation. But, because the Doctor found the words 'bless' and 'sacrifice' in the Prayer, he thought it necessary that his reader should take it for a part of the more solemn Office; whereas, though the elements are called

‘Prothesis’ and ‘the Sacrifice,’ yet the blessing of them is not to be understood, as if they expected it to be performed during the time they were on the side-Altar; but, afterwards, by rehearsing the Words of Institution, by the commemorative Oblation, and Prayers for the descent of the Spirit. This proleptical way of expression is very usual in all religious Forms. Thus, in the first Prayer of our Baptismal Office, we pray, that the person to be baptized may be “washed with the Holy Ghost,” not at the time when these words are pronounced, but when the act of Baptization is afterward performed: and he may see, that the acceptance and sanctification of the Sacrifice is prayed for in the introductory part of the several later Liturgies, in the sense that I now speak of; not that it was thought, that it was actually to be done in the very instant that this first petition was put up. What he means by all this, and on what grounds he supposes that Mr. Mede distinguishes between the Benediction and Consecration, he does not inform us, nor am I at leisure to guess.

P. 186. He tells us, “The blessing or agnizing God in His creatures falls in together with the Consecration, as set down in the excellent Form now used in our Church.” I wish, with all my heart, he could shew me such a Form of agnizing God in His creatures in our Liturgy; and, whereas he talks of this agnition falling in with the Consecration in other Liturgies, it gives me reason to question, whether he ever did attentively peruse any of them; for, it is certain, the agnition always preceded the Consecration. St. Basil’s Liturgy in the Words of Institution says, indeed, that “Christ did exhibit Bread to His Father;” but this does not necessarily prove, that the Priest and people, at the repetition of these words, did themselves formally agnize God’s dominion; and not only the Liturgies but Justin Martyr’s description of the celebration of the Eucharist plainly shews, that this agnition was made in words very ample and in the very entrance of the holy action. It commonly ended with the Trisagium; and so was not only before the Consecration strictly so called, but even the Commemorative Oblation and the Words of Institution.

Ibid. He tells us, it was “the Benediction [that] distinguished

the Bread and Wine from other Altar-offerings :" by which he seems to suppose it necessary, that other Oblations should be made on the Altar, beside those of Bread and Wine ; and in this lies his mistake. If by ' Benediction' he means the whole process of agnizing God in His creatures, the Trisagium, Words of Institution, Commemorative Oblation, and Prayer for the descent of the Holy Spirit, he says the truth ; but then, Benediction signifies the whole Ante-Communion Service, I mean, all that went before the distribution.

The 37th Canon of Carthage permits honey and milk to be offered on the Altar once a year ; and the Apostolical Canon allows grapes and ears of corn to be offered in their proper season, that is, Autumn ; but that either the honey, milk, grapes, or corn, were vocally to be offered by the Priest, together with the Bread and Wine, is only a supposition of the Doctor and some others. There is no reason to believe, that any materials, except the Bread and Wine, were any otherwise offered than by being solemnly presented on the Altar, and that but once a year. What benediction they had, was performed apart from that of the Bread and Wine. "The secondary Benediction" is a mere figment, with which the Doctor endeavours to puzzle the cause, p. 187. There was but one Benediction in the primitive times ; the Prothesis and other additions were made in after-ages. And, whereas he there supposes that Irenæus by ' first-fruits,' meant all material oblations, he surely forgets the words of Irenæus^r ; "Admonishing His disciples to offer the first-fruits of His creatures, He took Bread, and said, ' This is My Body,' &c." The very words of the African Canon^s, here cited by him, would plainly teach him the truth ; for in the Greek Translation (which he cites, as preferring it before the Latin original) a charge is given, that nothing be offered in the Sacrament *πλέον τοῦ Σώματος καὶ Ἀιμάτος Χριστοῦ*, "more than the Body and Blood of Christ;" and the Latin original means the same thing by those words, "nothing but what Christ hath commanded."

P. 186. He tells us that, in Chrysostom's Liturgy, the word ' consecrate' is paraphrased by ' offering these gifts.' I know the Doctor's glosses too well to lay any stress upon

^r c. p. 4. Ap. l. 17.

^s African Code, Can. 37.

them. I own, that Oblation was one part of Consecration ; but I am far from believing, that to ‘consecrate’ and ‘offer the gifts,’ are parallel expressions ; and therefore I wish he had told us, in what word the Liturgy expresses the English ‘consecrate,’ or had given us the entire sentence. The very phrase, here cited by the Doctor, is used in St. Chrysostom’s Liturgy (in the second vol. of Biblioth. Patrum, p. 74,) in its proper sense ; and that the reader may be convinced of it, I here give the whole period faithfully translated : “ Enable me,” says the Priest, “ by the power of the Holy Spirit, to stand at this Holy Table, and perform the hierurgy of Thy Holy and undefiled Body and of Thy Precious Blood. For to Thee I pray, bowing down my neck ; and, I beseech Thee, turn not Thy Face away from me, nor reject me from among Thy servants, but grant that these Gifts may be offered (Gr. προσενέχθηνται τὰ δῶρα ταῦτα) to Thee, by me, a sinner, and Thy unworthy servant ; for Thou art the Offerer and the Offered.” Now if these should be the very words that the Doctor had in his eye, which is not improbable, I can only say, the Doctor has given us a new specimen of his judgment and impartiality.

P. 188. He supposes his adversary will say, that “the Eucharist is not that Sacrifice (of Christ), but one that represents it ; to which,” says he, “ I oppose the voice of the Church in the emphatical words of Eulogius ; ‘The tremendous Sacrament of the Body of Christ, which we offer, is not an Oblation of different or distinct Sacrifices, or indeed any more than a Commemoration of that once offered.’” It is certain, these words are an emphatical proof of what he supposes his adversaries would say, viz., that the Eucharist is not the personal Sacrifice of Christ, but one that represents it. It is not an offering of various sacrifices : for the Eucharist, offered in Britain and the Indies, is the same, as being sanctified by the same Spirit, as being One and the same mysterious Body of Christ, in power though not in substance ; and in this sense it is the same, that was offered by Christ in the first Institution. And St. Augustine means the same by the *Similitudo Ejus Sacrificii*, that Eulogius does by ἀνάμνησις. No man did ever more industriously confute his own cause ; but in charity I believe he does it unwittingly.

P. 191. As before he called the supposed prayers of the people over their own Oblations, a ‘saying of Grace;’ so he here calls the most solemn and most excellent Form of Consecration now extant in the whole world, by the same name; by which he has filled up the measure of his profaneness, and in this respect deserves to be treated no longer as a Clergyman, but as one that makes no difference between holy and profane, that cannot “discern the Lord’s Body,” or make a difference between the Lord’s Table and his own. He asks, “What this blessing amounts to more than saying Grace?” I answer, as much as a sacrifice differs from common food; the words are^t, “We beseech Thee to look propitiously on these Gifts lying before Thee;” for I hope that he does not think that they are Gifts, as given by God to men, but as having been solemnly offered by men to God in the words immediately foregoing. I answer further, that they amount to more than a common Grace, especially in what follows; “And be Thou well pleased with them for the honour of Thy Christ; and send down Thy Holy Spirit on this Sacrifice,—and make this Bread the Body of Thy Christ, this Cup the Blood of Thy Christ, that they who partake of it may be confirmed in godliness, obtain remission of sins, be delivered from the deceit of the devil, be filled with the Holy Spirit, may be worthy of Thy Christ, may obtain everlasting life.” He who, when he had these words before him, could ask what they amounted to more than a common Grace, must be a man, not only insensible of the power of words, but very much disposed to make the Sacrament a common meal. He observes that “The formality of blessing was full as solemn (John vi. 11, and in the parallel texts) at our Saviour’s multiplying the loaves, as in the Institution of the Supper.” True, and therefore I suppose it has a signification in both places, importing a spiritual, Divine, praeternatural blessing imparted to the Bread. The Benediction communicated to the loaves and fishes was miraculous; and though the Benediction on the Eucharistical elements be not miraculous, yet it is Divine and spiritual and beyond the power of nature. And he therefore, who uses such language, deserves a severer reprimand than I am able to give him.

^t See c. p. 53, 54. Ap. l. 34, 35.

P. 191. Here he repeats his old error, which he is so exceedingly fond of, in citing the interpolation of Ignatius, and confounding the *Agapæ* with the Eucharist.

P. 195. Here he begins to prove, that Christ did not sacrifice in the Institution. And thus he argues : “ If Christ did offer Sacrifice, it was either by a formal offering of Bread and Wine to God, or His blessing or consecration of them ; but that neither of the latter was a proper sacrificial rite, we have just now seen. And as touching the former, after all your stir about it, no less a man than Ignatius will vouch against this, when contra-distinguishing *οὐτε προσφέρειν* to *οὐτε θυσίαν προσκομίζειν*; or though I should grant that a formal offering may pass in itself for a true sacrificial rite, yet would I deny that our Lord, so far as I can find, did at all use it.” Never were lines more big and stuffed with error ; for (to pass by the interpolation of St. Ignatius, which he has been observed to mention four or five times before, and always in opposition to his own cause) he denies, or would seem to deny, that either Offering or Consecrating are sacrificial rites. He would have done well to tell us, what are sacrificial rites ; for if these are not, I must declare I cannot guess what are. Nay, if he can shew us any other rite essential to Sacrifice, except that of making the Oblation by a Priest duly commissioned, I will acknowledge myself in a great error. I know what the Doctor would be at ; he would, with Dr. Hancock, make the ‘sprinkling of the blood,’ and the ‘burning part or the whole in fire’ to be the sacrificial rites ; but he was aware, that our Great High-Priest did neither of these in the Grand Sacrifice. And, further, it has been observed, that these rites were formerly the two actions, by which the Oblation was made ; and that no other rites, but those whereby the Oblation was made, were ever thought essential. And therefore I must reckon it another error in the Doctor, that he supposes any other necessary. What he means by saying, that Pseud-Ignatius denies Offering to be a sacrificial rite, I cannot divine. He speaks of ‘offering’ or ‘presenting a sacrifice ;’ by the first, I conceive, he means the Priestly Oblation ; by the second, the layman’s offering it to the Priest : but let the first be the layman’s part in making his offering to the Priest, the second the Priest’s part in presenting it to God ; I cannot discern on either supposition,

how he can be conceived to deny that Offering is a sacrificial rite. I should rather think, that he speaks of these two actions (if one be not exegetical of the other) to be the only actions necessary to Sacrifice ; and, indeed, it must be owned, that the layman is as much obliged to bring an oblation, as the Priest to offer it. I believe my reader will not wonder that the man, who doubts whether Offering be a sacrificial rite and cannot see a proper Sacrifice in these words of Pseud-Ignatius, which he seems to hug as his darling authority, should deny and oppose the doctrine of the Sacrifice or any other doctrine whatsoever. I shall not repeat what I have formerly said in the foregoing treatise concerning our Saviour's offering Himself in the Eucharist. The reader will find all that the Doctor here says, obviated, Chap. II. Sect. 1.

P. 202. After this account which I have given of the Doctor's arguings, I am not at all concerned at the representation he here makes of the most excellent Bishop Bull's writings, or my own ; the reader will take our meaning from our own words, and not from Dr. W.'s.

P. 206. "If," says the Doctor, "you will needs have a Sacrifice, why do ye stand aloof from the Papists?" Why? because they are for a Sacrifice that implies Transubstantiation, for such a Sacrifice as the Doctor every now and then pleads for in opposition to a Sacrifice of Bread and Wine ; and because they, together with their false notion of a Sacrifice, hold many other very gross errors. And, on the other side, we think ourselves obliged freely to declare our opinions in this point, that we may make it appear we are not schismatics from the Church of the very purest ages, which most certainly looked upon it as a real Sacrifice and celebrated it as such. And, as for the dirt, which some would throw upon us, as if we were Papists or popishly affected ; we look upon this, as the last refuge of unconscionable adversaries ; for I am bold to say that Presbyterians do with as good reason call our Bishops 'Popes' and our Liturgy 'the Mass-book,' and the Quakers and others have as good grounds for calling Priests and Sacraments 'rags of Popery,' as Dr. W. has to insinuate that the doctrine of the Sacrifice has any tendency that way ; I mean, the doctrine of the Sacrifice, as

held by the primitive Church, and asserted by Mr. Mede, Bishop Taylor, Bishop Bull, Dr. Grabe, and Dr. Hickes.

P. 212. Here the Doctor justly observes, that the Order of Melchisedec was a Sacrificing Order; and yet, p. 215, he denies that he offered bread and wine; he ought to have informed us what it was he offered. But I observe the Doctor's learning and knowledge is all negative; he has courage enough to deny any proposition that stands in his way; but his talent does not lie in building up, but wholly in pulling down.

P. 215, 216. He allows Melchisedec's Bread and Wine to be prefigurations of the Eucharistic symbols; and then adds, "Thus is St. Cyprian to be understood;" and recites that most illustrious testimony of this Father, which my reader may see in the Appendix^u, for Christ's offering His Body and Blood in the Eucharist. He has not one word to take off so great an authority, as I with reason esteem that to be.

P. 217. He deals much in the same manner with another irresistible evidence, from the same Epistle of this Blessed Martyr^x. He had been citing the Archbishop of Spalato, for calling the Eucharist the 'Sacrifice of Memory,' as he expresses it; and then goes on, "And this I take to be St. Cyprian's meaning, however speaking a little seemingly to the contrary;" and then produces his words. He proceeds to descant upon them and I know not what else, until he comes to the end of page 221. What he says is very harmless; but I cannot but observe, how he is forced at last to betake himself to the old loop-hole, that "St. Cyprian does not mean it literally." Now what is that [which] he does not mean literally, that Jesus Christ offered Himself? I suppose he will not say this, but, that He offered Himself in the Eucharist. And if Dr. W. mean, that the Eucharistical Body was not His natural Body, we own it; but it is beyond doubt, that St. Cyprian did expressly say that Christ offered Himself in the Eucharist; nor will the Doctor question, whether this venerable writer thought and believed what he said. Does he not literally say that "The Priest, who does what Christ did, offers a full and true Sacrifice?" And why must we not understand

^u m. 4. pp. 13, 14. Ap.

^x m. 9. p. 14. Ap.

him literally in the rest of the paragraph? Why, because of the words which immediately follow, *Cæterum omnis religio-nis et veritatis disciplina subvertitur, nisi id quod spirituali-ter mandatur, et fideliter reservetur.* The Doctor leaves out *mandatur* in the Latin, but gives it a double rendition in the English, viz., ‘commanded’ and ‘meant.’ And it is certain, all our Saviour’s commands are spiritual; that is, all our actions must be attended with a sense of our duty, and our minds must go along with us in the outward performance. That Christ’s Eucharistical Body is a spiritual Body and spiritually offered, is very certain; but it is evident that Dr. W., according to his hypothesis, cannot allow that it is offered in any sense; and therefore, when he says that the Father is not to be understood literally, he must mean, that St. Cyprian did not intend to say that Christ’s Body and Blood is commanded to be offered at all, which is directly contrary to his own words. Yet, sure, the Doctor does not think, that the word ‘spiritually’ renders the Bread, Wine, and Water, which St. Cyprian declares ought to be offered in the Eucharist perfectly immaterial things, or makes them vanish into nothing; but, according to his usual method of confuting himself, to take off the force of the words ‘a full and true Sacrifice,’ he gives us the excellent explanation of Mr. Perkins, viz., “It is called a full and true Sacrifice, not that Christ is hypostatically offered, but true, as to the verity of the representation, and the verity of the effect of the Sacrifice of the Cross, which we attain in the Communion;” thus does the Doctor argue against us.

P. 224. It is no great matter what Grotius says of the Passover, since the Scripture calls it a ‘sacrifice’ over and again. Dr. W. would persuade us that Dr. Spencer was of the same opinion with Grotius, but he was wiser than to mention page or chapter; and I have shewed that he expressly asserts it to be a most eminent sacrifice, Chap. I. Sect. 5. of the foregoing treatise.

P. 227. He cites St. Cyprian for saying, “In the Sacri-fice, which Christ Himself offered, Christ only is to be fol-lowed;” and confutes him by saying, “He meant the Insti-tution of the Supper, which I have already shewed not to be

a real Sacrifice." This is the Doctor's short way with the Fathers.

P. 228. Here you have his shrewd argument against us, viz., that the Eucharist is never called a Sacrifice in the New ^{1 Pet. ii. 5.} Testament. Now this is more than the Doctor knows; the "spiritual Sacrifices" were very probably the Bread and Wine, to mention at present no other text. We are very sure that the symbols are Christ's "Body given for" us, Christ's "Blood shed for" us; and if Christ's Body given for us be not a Sacrifice, I know not what deserves that name. But my reader will observe, that this is the very argument used by Quakers and other enthusiasts against the word 'Sacrament,' that the Eucharist is never so called in Scripture. Nay, 'Sacrament' is not a Scriptural word, and therefore their objection is more plausible than the Doctor's.

P. 229. He introduces Bellarmine and other writers of the Church of Rome, saying, that strictly Sacrificial terms were not applied to the Holy Eucharist by the first preachers. The same authors will tell you that Infant-Baptism and the Consubstantiality of the Three Divine Persons cannot be proved from Holy Scripture. And the reason they have to say this is, to dispose such Protestants, as have a zeal for these doctrines, to join in with them in resolving these doctrines into the authority of the Church. Can the Doctor be taken with such baits?

P. 236. To depress the authority of the most primitive Fathers, and who are only not inspired writers, he reflects on St. Clement's mention of the Phœnix, and St. Barnabas's allusion to the Hyæna. And, when his hand was in, he might too have entered his exceptions against David's similitude of "the deaf adder, which stoppeth her ears, and refuseth to hear the voice of the charmer." The common belief of the people to whom we speak, is a sufficient foundation for a similitude, a moral reflection, or even an argument *ad homines*. But what a way of arguing is this? St. Clement was not a philosopher; therefore he was no good Divine? St. Clement had never travelled into the countries, where the Phœnix was reported to reside, and so had no opportunity of inquiring into the matter of fact; therefore he could not understand Christianity, though preached to him by the

Apostles; and is not to be believed in relation to the Christian Sacrifice, though he had seen it offered by the Apostles, and it was one chief part of his function, to offer it daily himself.

P. 245. Here is a very extraordinary passage; “I will grant that, from the end of the second century, the Eucharistic Bread and Wine looked something like a Sacrifice; yet, when it came to be thought really one by the people, the Fathers of the Church, very probably I say, guarded against it, and spoke more plainly than before of the Bread and Wine as made the Body and Blood of Christ by Consecration; but, in process of time, *hinc illæ lachrymæ!*”—he means Transubstantiation. He will not allow that the Eucharist looked like a Sacrifice, till toward the end of the second century; he might as well have said the sixth or the tenth, especially since he believed the passage in the interpolated Epistle of St. Ignatius to the Smyrnæans to be genuine; for this Martyr lived in the first century, and wrote in the beginning of the second: and he owns this to be meant of the Sacrifice of the Body of Christ, p. 32. But how did the Fathers guard against this Sacrifice of Bread and Wine? Why, by speaking more plainly of the Sacrifice of the Body and Blood. Strange men of Fathers! to guard against a lesser error, by introducing a greater! The fundamental error of the Doctor is this, that he distinguishes between the Sacrifice of Bread and Wine and the Sacrifice of the Body and Blood. The ancient Fathers sufficiently guarded against this error, as I have shewed in the preceding work.

P. 246. He makes the Right Reverend Bishop Fell’s ‘Mealoblation’ and his ‘libamen of Bread and Wine’ to be the ‘praise,’ &c. offered in the Communion; and his reason is, because the Bishop calls it ‘an Eucharistic Sacrifice.’ This is very argute; but he ought to have observed, that the Bishop himself makes ‘the Prayer,’ which includes the praise, to be meant by the ‘Incense,’ Mal. i. 10, 11. and not by the *Mincha*. The words of Bishop Fell are these; *Apud Christianos superstitione et incruentum Sacrificium, quod Malachiæ verbis Mincha puro, hoc est, Oblatione farrea cum suo libamine, Pane scilicet et Vino, vero illo semperque duraturo Sacrificio Eucharistico, et precum piarum thymiamate constat.* He deals in the same manner with the words of Bishop Montague in the next page.

P. 248. He introduces Justin Martyr^z, saying, “God now receives everywhere from Christians those Sacrifices, which He appointed to be made, that is, in the Eucharist and Blessing of the Bread and Wine.” He renders the word *Εὐχαριστία*, ‘Eucharist and Blessing,’ that he may with greater grace add, “which acts about them, and not the Bread and Wine, God testifies Himself to be pleased with.” But my reader cannot be ignorant of what has been more than once observed, that Justin Martyr and Origen, &c., call the Bread and Wine, the Eucharist. I have spoken elsewhere at large of this passage or rather this dismembered clause; for he cites another part of this paragraph, p. 178, to the very same purpose that he does this.

P. 250. I heartily thank the Doctor for transcribing from Dr. Nicholls the long passage, relating to the Eucharist, and shewing the obligation that Priests are under to place the Bread and Wine on the Holy Table with their own hands, by virtue of that Rubric, which I have elsewhere mentioned; and I do most earnestly recommend it to the consideration of my Reverend Brethren.

P. 251. The Doctor seems to commend our English Translators of the New Testament, for not turning the Greek *Πρεσβύτερος* by the English ‘Priest.’ In this I cannot join with him, especially since the word ‘Priest’ is retained in the Liturgy. I think by the same rule, whereby they turned *Πρεσβύτερος*, ‘Elder,’ they should have turned *Ἐπίσκοπος*, ‘Overseer.’ I remember our Doctor, at one place, corrects Archbishop Cranmer for using the word ‘Priest,’ by adding in a parenthesis (‘Presbyter’ he means,) it is p. 217. I suppose he would alter the Litany and Ordination Service in the same manner, if they were not more incorrigible than an Archbishop, that has been dead these 150 years.

P. 264, 265. The Doctor is here very profuse of his own or other men’s wit, such as it is, upon Dr. Hickes and his “satellites.” The author of the Propitiatory Oblation has just reason to think that this was meant to him among others, and he thanks him for it; for he does not question, but that it will always be more reputable, in the judgment of all the valuable part of mankind, for a Priest to second any

^z c. p. 3. Ap.

great man in defence of Divine Truth, than to make one in forming a guard to attend a lay patriot in making his *ambitus* to beg for votes in shops and stalls in opposition to the loyal and peaceable majority of his own brethren. And the worst of Dr. Hickes's enemies must allow him to be a man truly great, so far as learning and piety and constancy of mind can give a man right to that title.

P. 266. Here he makes merry with that observation of Dr. Hickes and others, that *ποιεῖν* signifies 'to offer.' He thinks he has answered all the proofs brought for this signification of the word by the most learned writer last mentioned, by saying, "that *ποιεῖν* and *facere* are joined with a noun confessedly signifying 'Sacrifice,'" in all the instances produced by Dr. Hickes, (see p. 268, of Dr. W.'s book). He should have said a noun capable of a Sacrificial signification; for neither 'ox' nor 'sheep' nor any such like words do of themselves betoken 'Sacrifice,' any more than they do 'ploughing' or 'grazing' or any other action, in which they are capable of being agents or patients. And, certainly, the Sacramental Body and Blood of Christ are as capable of being offered as any of those creatures, which are joined with the word *ποιεῖν* in that ample collection of authorities, which the reader may see in the 'Christian Priesthood.' What Dr. W. can mean, when he allows that *facere vitulum* may signify 'to sacrifice a calf,' but *ποιεῖν τοῦτο* cannot signify 'to offer this' body or blood, I cannot conceive, except out of his abundant skill in the Greek tongue he would have *τοῦτο* put in the ablative case. And, whereas he calls this proof of Dr. Hickes's and of the author of the 'Propitiatory Oblation' *argumentum vitulinum*, it is left to the reader to judge, whether their argument or his answer have most of the calf in it.

P. 268. The 'Christian Priesthood' cites Tertullian for saying, *Nemo convulsus animum in fratrem suum munus apud Altare perficiet, nisi prius reconciliando fratri reversus ad patientiam fuerit.* To this Dr. Hickes adds this observation, that " *munus perficere* is a Sacrificial expression." Dr. W. here tells Dr. Hickes, that "he seems to have forgotten himself, in that he cites the compound *perficere* as coupled with a noun which does not necessarily signify

'Sacrifice,' namely *manus*; the which, as joined with *perficere*, I should rather think equivalent with *obire munus seu officium*, 'to do or execute an office.'”—Here is an instance of our Doctor's skill in the Latin. Tertullian evidently refers to Matt. v. 23. And, according to this conceit of Dr. W.'s, that verse should thus be rendered, "If thou bring thine office to the Altar, and there rememberest, &c. Leave thine office before the Altar, go, be reconciled to thy brother, then come, and offer thine office." This is too crude to be put upon Tertullian, nor will any one own it, not the Doctor himself, though it be of his own making.

P. 269. He represents Dr. Hickes as saying, that $\lambda\alpha\beta\epsilon\iota\nu$ does always import Sacrificing, and that "he who taketh sacrificeth." I consulted the 'Christian Priesthood' at p. 114, to which Dr. W. refers his reader. There the Doctor is upon quite another subject; but in p. 24 of the Account of the third Edition, and prefixed to the book, he speaks particularly of this matter: but there are no words like those which Dr. W. imputes to him; he only says that " $\lambda\alpha\beta\epsilon\iota\nu$ will fairly bear this sense." See how he misreports his adversary's sayings; and then, to hide his fraud, directs you to a wrong place of his book! yet this is the man that would have himself thought to be a lover of truth.

P. 279. Here he shews us again his fundamental mistake in relation to the Eucharist. He cites St. Augustine or *Fulgentius*, *De Fide ad Petrum*, for saying, "The Catholic Church continually offers throughout the world a Sacrifice of Bread and Wine in faith and charity." This he supposes a testimony for us; but he cites the same writer *De Baptismo*, for saying, "Your faith is to be thus instructed, that the Bread is the Body of Christ, the Wine the Blood." And this he supposes favourable to the Popish notion; and he talks of "carrying away the prize from both us and the Papists;" as if the Doctor had forgot what he has elsewhere said, that the Papists allow no Bread in their Sacrifice, and that to say "the Bread is the Body of Christ" is, with them, rank heresy. This is equally inconsistent with the notions of the Papists and Dr. W., and only fits the primitive Apostolical Sacrifice for which I plead.

P. 283. He cites St. Augustine for mentioning the two

ways of Sacrificing, that of Aaron, and that of Melchisedec ; and as saying in another place^a, “The former is taken away, and the other diffused throughout the world :” and though he seems first to question, whether the Father do not mean Transubstantiation, because he calls it the Sacrifice of the Body and Blood ; yet, without any further arguing, in the next sentence he takes courage, and calls him “the true patron of the Sacramentarians, as you” (speaking to his adversary) “and the Papists call us.” He refers to no place in the writings of Dr. Hickes or of any one else, where he or his friends are so called ; and therefore, if it be a calumny, it is one of his own coining : but it is strange he should acquiesce and patiently bear such an imputation ; for none, who believe the doctrine of the Church of England, can be styled ‘Sacramentarians.’ Ecolampadius and Zuinglius, with their adherents, were the men, who were of old justly branded with this infamous character ; and whether the modern Calvinists do not favour this opinion, I have reason to doubt. It is probable, if the writers on our side had charged their adversaries with this error, we should have heard them make loud outcries against us on this head ; but, since the Doctor impleads himself, he ought to have made his compurgation. For, if he be a Sacramentarian, he cannot believe that “the Body and Blood of Christ are verily and indeed taken and received by the Faithful in the Lord’s Supper.” But the Doctor does not content himself with moderate errors ; for, in discoursing of the priesthood of Melchisedec, he asserts that Christ “executed it on the Cross only.” It will be impossible to prove, that He did at all execute it on the Cross ; because it cannot be proved, that the Melchisedec in Genesis did offer “bloody sacrifice.” It is certain, St. Augustine whom he here cites is to be understood of the Eucharistical Sacrifice only, as may be seen in the Appendix^b ; and there is no more direct proof against the Fathers’ belief of Transubstantiation than that they perpetually say, that in the Eucharist we offer what Melchisedec did, viz., Bread and Wine ; and this proof we can urge against the Papists with a much better face than they who would persuade men, that the Fathers were mis-

^a q. p. 33. Ap.^b D. p. 35. Ap.

taken in this point, and that Melchisedec did not sacrifice Bread and Wine.

P. 284, 285. In these pages we have a lepid conceit of the Doctor's, that the ancients called the Eucharist a 'Sacrifice,' for the same reason that the Pope is styled 'his Holiness,' and two neighbouring Kings are styled 'most Christian' and 'most Catholic,' or that himself is called 'Wise.' I suppose he means an antiphrasis, and that therefore every proof we produce for the Sacrifice from antiquity is a direct argument against it; and it is upon this lay only, that he and his friends are like to overpower us.

P. 289. Dr. W. charges Dr. Hickes with saying, that the Bread and Wine, until consecrated, can at the most be properly called no more than *Dona*. Dr. Hickes's words, to which we are here referred, are as follows; "The Bread and Wine were the matter, which the people offered, and the Bishop received and solemnly offered up to God by Consecration for the Heavenly banquet of the Lord's Supper; and as they were in the literal sense a proper material offering or Sacrifice, so they were, in the mystical or Sacramental, the Body and Blood of Christ." Let the reader judge between the most learned Dr. Hickes and his antagonist; the words are in Pref. before the second Collection of Controversial Letters.

Ibid. He supposes it a contradiction, to be a symbolical and real Sacrifice; as if all the Levitical sacrifices were not both symbolical and real. He calls for the philosopher's stone to reconcile this difficulty; and a man would be ready to suspect that he himself had been studying it, I mean, by his very odd mixtures and jumbles of things of so very different a nature, which are so visible throughout the whole book.

P. 290. Now the Doctor is come to the very thing, which he denies, and which he expects we should prove, viz., that the Bread and Wine are a Sacrifice "antecedently to, or abstractedly from, their being a representative." But why are we bound to prove this? Is it not sufficient, that we prove them, not only to have been representatives, but to have been offered as such at God's Altar, with the most solemn act of Oblation that was ever used in the whole world? What necessity is there, that it must have been a Sacrifice, before

it became a representative? But, to humour the Doctor, I have proved that the lay-offerings were called ‘sacrifices;’ those offerings which, the Doctor says, were made by the law of nature. And, certainly, an Altar-offering may be called a ‘sacrifice,’ so soon as brought to the Altar-house. So it was under the Law, as any one may see, Lev. i. 3, where the animal intended for a burnt-offering is called by that name, before it was presented to the priest; and the same may be said of the sacrifice of peace-offering, which is so called while the animal was yet in the proprietor’s hands, and therefore before it had been offered by the priest, Lev. iii. 6—8.

P. 292. We are here told, that Lactantius distinguishes “between the Heavenly Sacrament and the sacrifices, and remarks how the heathen praised all those Christians whom they could prevail upon to come to the latter.” What, did the heathen praise those whom they could persuade to come to the Christian Sacrifices? This is a discovery indeed, but such a one, as even our adversaries could not believe, though Lactantius himself should say it; but, at other places, Lactantius owns, as we are told, that Christians had no sacrifices (meaning sacrifices offered by blood and smoke); but how then do these things consist? Why, the truth is, Lactantius opposes the Christian Sacraments to the heathen sacrifices; and no wonder that the heathen praised them whom they could prevail upon to frequent the latter. And was not this remark worthy of the Doctor, and very much for the service of his cause? In the same page he cites Aquinas, speaking of the Eucharist as a mere image. I was surprised to think that the Doctor had converted an old drudge of the Church of Rome, who had been dead and gone so many hundred years before the Doctor was born; but I found upon a scrutiny, that the Doctor uses Aquinas, as he does other authors; he cites him by halves. Aquinas does indeed use the words there cited by the Doctor, and produces St. Augustine and St. Ambrose to the same purpose; but to shew that he did no more than like them, he adds, “As to the first manner (the figurative he means), Christ might be said to be immolated in the figures of the Old Testament.” His second manner is, that Christ is sacrificed “as to the effect of His Passion; because by this Sacrament we are made

partakers of the fruit of it." And to this purpose he cites an old Dominical Prayer, which says, "As often as the commemoration of this Sacrifice is celebrated, the work of our Redemption is exercised." I wish Aquinas and the Romanists had never said any thing worse than this.

P. 294. "The Right Reverend Bishop of Sarum," says the Doctor, "asserts, that all that the ancients say concerning the unbloody Sacrifice must be understood to relate to the prayers and praises that accompanied it." The reader may, Chap. II. Sect. 1. of the foregoing book, see and hear the ancient Bishops and Fathers speaking for themselves; and the reader is at liberty to judge for himself, whether the Bishop of Salisbury have fairly represented their sense.

P. 295. He adds, the same learned Bishop tells us again, "All that the Scripture has delivered to us concerning the Eucharist represents it as an action of the whole body of the people, in which the Priest has no special share but that of officiating." No other share but that of officiating? I wish Dr. W. would inform us, what Priests ever had any other share in offering the Sacrifice, beside this of officiating. But he tells us, this is an action of the whole body of the people; and does this derogate from the Sacrificial nature of it? At this rate any sacrifice, that was offered in behalf of the whole nation of the Israelites, was no proper sacrifice; for, in this case, "the whole congregation of the people were to offer it," Lev. iv. 14. And, in all cases, the persons, at whose cost or for whose benefit the sacrifice was offered, are said themselves to offer it, as has been proved by me over and again. And, sure, no man believes, that the most stupid of the Jewish people were so senseless as not to join with the priest in hearty wishes and silent prayers for the acceptance and efficacy of the sacrifice. By the Law of Moses there is no appearance of any vocal prayers or devotions to be used at the offering of the sacrifice, (only he that brought a sin-offering was to confess his sin over the animal that was to be sacrificed); but, when verbal devotions were afterwards joined with sacrifice, the people as well as priest joined in those devotions, and the priest had no share but that of officiating, 1 Macc. iv. 52—56; the Jewish priests officiated in their way, we in ours.

P. 296. He would infer from some words of the said Right Reverend Bishop, that “during so long a tract of time as the ten first centuries, the Eucharist was not practised as a real Sacrifice.” With what face then can the Doctor oppose such an authority, and tell us, as he does at another place (p. 245,) that from the end of the second century the people really believed the Bread and Wine a Sacrifice; and that “the Fathers of the Church, to guard against this error, began to speak more plainly of the Sacrifice of the Body and Blood,” that is, in plain terms, to introduce the belief and practice of it? The truth is, the Doctor misunderstands his author, as it were easy to shew. The Bishop is a man of greater learning and knowledge than to assert so palpable a fiction; and if he had affirmed it, yet the Doctor himself could scarce have swallowed it, but might perhaps hope to put it upon his female readers.

P. 302. Here he errs over his own old error, that to be a symbol and a memorial are inconsistent with the nature of a true Sacrifice; and, because Eusebius calls it^c a ‘Memorial,’ he cannot think he believed it a true Sacrifice. Now that the Doctor may see that his want of conviction proceeds not from the things themselves, but from some particular turn of his understanding and judgment, I will give him the words of St. Augustine^d; “Christians celebrate the Memory of that same Sacrifice in the Holy Oblation and participation of His Body and Blood.” He calls it in the same sentence ‘a Memory,’ and yet ‘an Oblation of the Body and Blood.’ And, sure, the Doctor will allow the offering of Christ’s Body and Blood to be a true Sacrifice.

P. 304. Here he runs into the old common-place of the sufficiency of the Sacrifice of the Cross, and the *juge Sacrifidum* in Heaven. And this is an argument as valid against all the sacrifices under the Law, as those under the Gospel. For Christ was a Priest and Mediator before His Incarnation, as well as since; and Christ’s Blood was shed for remission of sins under the first Covenant, Heb. ix. 15, as well as under the Evangelical Dispensation. But we, as well as they, stand in need of an applicative Sacrifice; and we have no other but the Eucharist.

^c f. p. 16. Ap.

^d H. p. 36. Ap.

P. 305. In this page we have a fresh specimen of the Doctor's good judgment in his pretended citation from St. Athanasius, which he thus translates: "As all, who think themselves bound to offer sacrifice to God by the blood of animals and irrational things, do pervert the unbloody Sacrifice of Christ and make it seem abominable; so all, who circumcise the flesh, do set at nought and overturn the spiritual Circumcision of Christians, viz., Holy Baptism." The writer was speaking of such as yet practised Circumcision. By 'Holy Baptism,' in this place, the Doctor is willing to understand the 'inward sanctification by the Spirit;' but I conceive he will scarce find any good authority for this sense of the words, if he mean 'an inward sanctification,' distinct from that conferred by Water-Baptism. Water-Baptism is spiritual-Baptism in the language of antiquity, and as it here stands in opposition to carnal Circumcision. Neither Jews nor Judaizing Christians could reproach spiritual Circumcision, if by that he meant the Circumcision of the heart; for that was required even by the Law of Moses, Deut. x. 16, and the word *λοιδόροντσι* does infallibly signify 'reproach,' though the Doctor is pleased to render it 'set at nought,' thereby to reconcile his author's notion to his own. And if Baptism by Water be spiritual Baptism, then I cannot conceive, why the unbloody Sacrifice should be any other than that of the Eucharist; especially since our adversaries have not yet been able to give us one single instance, where the epithet 'unbloody' is applied to prayer and praise. And the Doctor had nothing to trust to but a criticism of his own, viz., that *ἄλογα* must here signify not 'brutes,' but 'senseless things;' whereas I am pretty sure, he is destitute of any good authority for so understanding it: and yet, upon these poor pretences, he makes this translation vary from the original; for he says, "by the blood of animals and irrational things," whereas it is in the original, "by blood and brutes;" so that I should claim this writer as my own, if he were worth contending for. The words were taken from *Quæstiones ad Antiochum*, which Dr. Cave says were written in the seventh century or afterwards; nor can I see why the Doctor should be so zealous to vindicate him from the imputation of a tautology, which is incident to the very best

writers. Thus the Doctor, finding no supply from genuine antiquity, goes begging votes from one spurious writer to another, Pseud-Ignatius, Pseudo-Cyprianus, Pseud-Ambrosius, Pseud-Eusebius Emissenus, and Pseud-Athanasius ; and yet neither from them can he extort one word that comes home to his purpose.

P. 306. The Doctor here asserts, that "the word 'Sacrifice' cannot univocally be asserted of the Jewish and the Christian *Mincha*." If he mean that the latter is not so properly a Sacrifice as the other, he ought to have produced something at least that had a shadow of reason for it, which yet, I think, he has not done: for to say that it is offered without Sacrificial rites is to say he knows not what; except he could tell us what those Sacrificial rites are, which are essential to Sacrificial oblations. I have said very often that the act or acts, whereby the material gift is presented to God, are the only rites necessary to constitute a Sacrifice; and that the prayers and praises pronounced by the Priest are the only necessary rites or actions for making the Christian Oblation; and I must believe I am right in this, until somebody can point out some other rite that was always thought necessary beside that of Oblation. When we say it is a spiritual Sacrifice, our adversaries presently run away with the word 'spiritual,' and from thence conclude we mean an improper Sacrifice. But no such matter; by giving it this title, we mean that it is a more excellent Sacrifice than any offered under the Law, more clearly significative of the archetype, blessed by the especial Presence of the Divine Spirit, offered by a spiritual medium, viz., prayer and praise, which ought to proceed not from the mouth only but from the heart. When the Jews from the time of King David used Psalms and vocal devotions at the time of their sacrifices, yet it cannot be said that their sacrifices were offered by this medium. The rites of sprinkling the blood and burning some part of the material sacrifice were still the obligatory actions, enacted by the Divine authority of the Law; and what was sung or said was only an additional solemnity, and no necessary ingredient of the sacrifice itself; and the presenting the Sacrifice itself by a spiritual medium was reserved to be the distinguishing character of the Evangelical *Mincha*. In the

next page he denies the *Mincha* to be a proper sacrifice, “because the prayers of David are called *Mincha*.” Now suppose Ps. cxli. 2. David had called his prayer, *Mincha*; yet it would by no means follow, that a *Mincha* was not a proper Sacrifice. For the same Divine writer says, “The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;” the Hebrew word is זבחים, which signifies ‘bloody’ or ‘slain sacrifices;’ but I apprehend, the Doctor himself will not say that it was David’s intention in these words to say, that a bullock that died by the sacrificial knife was not a proper sacrifice; and the case is parallel: but, in truth, David says no such thing. He begs that “his prayer may be set forth as incense, and the lifting up of his hands as the evening-*Mincha*,” or ‘sacrifice’ as the English Translators justly render it: (for I think it is evident, that by the *Mincha* he means the lamb, as well as the bread and wine, which was to be offered every evening.) The Doctor was willing to have some merely mental action represented by the *Mincha*, and so transposes the words, applies that to the *Mincha* which David said of the incense, or else through a hasty zeal that would not give him leisure to look into his Bible relied too much on his memory; but if a Priest make such a blunder in his English Psalter, what can we expect from him in books with which he is less acquainted? The Doctor here applies the words of Chemnitius concerning Eccius to one whom he honours with the name of “Dr. Hickes’s friend;” I can easily guess whom he had in his eye. The words he means are as follows, “Wherever *Mincha* is mentioned in the Old Testament, he pretends that it proves a real sacrifice under the Gospel;” which words are just as true as those I cited from him immediately before, as I could easily demonstrate, if I had so great a regard to that friend of Doctor Hickes as Dr. W. has for his own person. In the mean time, when Dr. W. can shew that this nameless writer has made any such gross misapplication of the Jewish *Mincha* as Dr. W. has in his citation from Psalm cxli., I dare engage, he shall recant his error. After this rub to him whom he calls “Dr. Hickes’s friend,” he strikes at him, whom one may justly style a friend to all good men, and the truest fautor and benefactor to true Christianity and the Clergy, of any private gentleman in the whole kingdom; whose writings

and actions are the fairest transcript of primitive piety that is, I believe, anywhere to be found in the Christian world. I need not tell my reader, Mr. Nelson is the man. I should value myself, if it were in my power to say or do anything in his defence upon a just occasion ; but what Dr. W. objects, of his citing the Rabbins, needs no defence. Dr. W. would certainly have thought it more reputable to have produced the evidence of the old Jewish Doctors than of those many modern and old spurious writers, whom he so plentifully quotes ; but he could hear of none but what were directly against him, and so, to be even with them, he joins Chemnitius in crying them down.

P. 309. He seems to think, that the observation of the Jewish Sabbath (as well as the Lord's day) is grounded on as good authority as the doctrine of the Sacrifice ; and when he has proved it, I promise to concur with him.

P. 313. Now to wind up his unmerciful long interlocution, which he could scarce barely transcribe in a week's time nor intelligibly pronounce in less than five or six hours, he soothes himself in the following words, "Thus have I endeavoured upon the whole matter to entertain you with a mixture of profitable and pleasant ;" and that he has really done his best, I in earnest believe. He may "write a book six times as big," p. 83, as he seems to threaten us he will do, if we do not mend our manners ; but I am pretty sure, he cannot make a greater show of learning and argument in proportion to the bulk ; nor can it be six times more trifling, obscure, and incoherent, immethodical and full of affectation, than the sample he has given us in this present work. The reader who has never perused his book is not to think that I have acted the part of a severe censor. I will be bound, if he think fit to call for it, to give him as many more instances of errors or impertinences, as I have yet mentioned. I have singled out those that do most nearly concern the cause in which I am engaged ; and, as for the rest, I am willing they should lie dormant in silence and neglect, except he give me further provocation. The animadversions I have made in these few sheets have been the most ungrateful part of my present undertaking ; but I thought it necessary to convince the world, that the two most copious writers against the

Sacrifice were altogether unequal to the task ; and I must declare that, of the two, Dr. Hancock is the most clear and tolerable writer. However, Dr. W. has his own good word ; for thus he goes on (speaking to his adversary), “ And now, Sir, will you be so partial as only in my case to reverse the maxim, which otherwise you would grant to hold universally, *Omne tulit punctum, qui miscuit utile dulci?*”—and p. 320, “ I love the truth and peace, and it were better for me to die than that any man should make my glorifying void ;” but I have not patience to transcribe such fulsome, canting stuff. If I could see anything that was Apostolical in the Doctor (except the character of a Priest, which he himself vilifies and in effect renounces), I could willingly excuse his boasting and glorying ; but I cannot discern so much as one of the infirmities of St. Paul in this writer. And I will no more undertake to make such glorifying void than to annihilate a *Non-Ens.*

POSTSCRIPT.

As I am satisfied that there is nothing in Dr. W.’s Book or Sermon, which concerns the main cause, but what has been effectually answered ; and, as to what is personal, I never intended to meddle with it any further than to repel some of his grossest reproaches ; so I cannot but make one general reflection upon the authorities he produces from the ancients. We have seen what his reasonings are, and what foul mistakes he has committed in relation to the authorities which he has cited ; but, because his appeals to antiquity are frequent and somewhat numerous, I thought fit to draw them up in a body and set them all at once in the reader’s view, that so it may appear what real service he has done to his cause by his allegations from the writers of the ancient Church. His citations for or against the doctrine of the Sacrifice are much about a hundred ; I am apt to think, that this was the round number he aimed at. I will not dispute with him, whether he have furnished his complement by splitting one paragraph into two several citations for the proof of the very same thing, or whether he may not a little fall short or exceed as to the number just now mentioned.

I. I will lay before the reader the citations which he has produced directly against the cause which he would be thought to maintain, or which at least seem so to me.

1 Chrysostom's Liturgy, *Eὐλόγησον πρόθεσιν πρόσδεξαι θυσίαν*, p. 22, 85.

* 7 Cyprian's Epistle to Cæcilius, p. 20, 192, 216, 217, 222, 227, 228, (in Appendix, m.)

1 Chrysostom's *θυσίαν ἀμείψας*, p. 31.

1 His citation from Pseud-Ignatius, p. 32, &c.

1 St. Ambrose, or Hilary, " *Una est hæc hostia, non multæ,*" p. 37.

1 From the Apostles' Constitutions, lib. vi. c. 23, (which see in Appendix^e), p. 44.

1 Cyprian, " *Sacrificia pro iis offerimus,*" p. 160.

1 Concil. Nic. Can. *Διάκονοι μὴ ἔχοντες ἐξουσίαν προσφέρειν*, p. 160.

1 Idem Can. 5. *Καθαρὸν δῶρον*, p. 160, 169.

1 Origen^f, p. 163.

1 Chrysostom's Liturgy, *ἀναίμακτος θυσία*, p. 165.

1 Cyril of Jerusalem^g, p. 163.

1 Origen's *ἄρτος Εὐχαριστίᾳ καλούμενος*, p. 165.

1 St. James's Liturgy, *ἀναίμακτος θυσία*, p. 166.

1 Chrysostom's Liturgy, *προσενέχθηνται τὰ δῶρα*, p. 168.

1 Tertullian's " *munditiae Sacrificiorum,*" p. 172.

1 Justin Martyr concerning the leper's cake^h, p. 178.

1 Eusebius's *θύομεν καὶ θυμιῶμεν*ⁱ, p. 176.

1 St. Mark's Liturgy, *ἀναίμακτος λατρεία*, p. 176.

1 St. Chrysostom's *ἀναίμακτοι θυσίαι*, p. 177.

1 Apost. Const.^k, p. 179, 180.

1 Cyril of Jerusalem, *τῆς ἁγίας προκειμένης θυσίας*^l, p. 180.

1 Origen^m, p. 181.

1 Jerome, " *cum Te pro nobis offers,*" p. 180.

1 Can. 37. of Afr. Codeⁿ, Conc. Carth. 3. Can. 24. p. 186.

1 Eulogius, *τοῦ σώματος Κυρίου τελετή*, p. 188.

^e c. p. 47. Ap.

^k c. p. 53. Ap.

^f a. p. 9. Ap.

^l f. p. 19. Ap.

^g f. p. 19. Ap.

^m b. p. 10. Ap.

^h b. p. 3. Ap.

ⁿ p. 51. Appendix.

ⁱ g. p. 15, 16. Ap.

- 1 St. Augustine, “*Christus omni die immolatur*,” p. 203.
- 1 Euseb. Emis., “*Redemptionis Oblatio*,” p. 203.
- 1 Cyril. Alex., ἀναίμακτός λατρεῖα, p. 213.
- 1 Isidore Pelus., θεῖον Πάσχα, p. 223.
- 1 Chrysostom, ἐσφαγμένος κεῖται ὁ Χριστὸς, p. 277.
- 1 Gelasius Cyz., ἀμνὸς τεθυμμένος, p. 277.
- 1 Fulgentius, “*Sacrificium panis et vini*,” p. 203.
- 1 Idem, “*Sacrificium Corporis et Sanguinis*,” p. 203.
- 1 St. Augustine, “*sacrificium Melchisedec*,” p. 283.
- 1 Pseud-Athanasius, ἀναίμακτος θυσία, p. 305.
- 1 Apost. Const., lib. viii. c. 46, ἀναίμακτος θυσία, p. 199.

N. B. He cites St. Cyprian's Epistle to Cæcilius seven several times, and produces seven several passages out of it; and that the whole Epistle is directly a confirmation of the doctrine of the Sacrifice will appear to any one, that pleases to peruse my large transcript from it in the Appendix; and therefore it must be granted that, whatever fanciful turn Dr. W. may give to some of his words, they must in reality be meant in another sense than he has given them; so that forty-three at least of his citations, rightly understood, are evidences of the doctrine of the Sacrifice of the Eucharist. And I may reckon OEcumenius's words of “the unbloody Sacrifice, offered by the lips,” for another; and Julian the Apostate's “new Sacrifice” is an express acknowledgment of this doctrine; for though he, by calling it ‘new,’ intended to disparage it, yet even Irenæus calls it a “new oblation.” If he had meant prayers and praises, he could not have called it ‘new,’ for this was as old as mankind. You have OEcumenius's words, p. 177, Julian the Apostate's, p. 238, and you may, if you please, add Lucian's *καινὴ τελετὴ*, which is there also mentioned. I did not take notice of OEcumenius in the foregoing list; because his authority is of no weight, as being a writer of the tenth or eleventh century. Julian and Lucian were professed infidels, therefore I place them last of all; but their authority is as good for the Sacrifice, as it would have been against it, if Dr. W. could have made them speak his sense; so that near half his citations are proofs of the Sacrifice, though not perhaps so full as those which I have chosen for the support of it. Many of them

indeed are the very same ; and the rest would have served, if I had not thought that I had better.

II. Another file of citations you have from Dr. Wise, to prove that the Eucharist is a sacrifice of praise. Some of these I have produced ; because I apprehended that they are to be understood of a material sacrifice. However, I have mentioned them under this head ; because it must be left to the reader's judgment, whether the Doctor or I am right. This is certain, that nothing of this sort produced by the Doctor makes against us, because it is agreed on both sides that the Eucharist is a sacrifice of praise, and that prayer and praise are often called 'Sacrifice' and have great power and excellency attributed to them.

- 2 Cyril of Alexandr., p. 26, and again, p. 122.
- 1 Tertullian, p. 161.
- 2 Basil's and Chrysostom's Liturgy, p. 166.
- 2 Justin Martyr, p. 178.
- 1 S. Clemens Rom., p. 179.
- 1 S. Gregor. Naz., 179.
- 1 Origen, p. 180
- 1 Lactantius, p. 181.
- 1 Tertullian, p. 181.
- 2 S. Augustine, p. 182.
- 2 Clemens Alexandrin., p. 182.
- 1 Lactantius, p. 240. -

III. He has the following citations to prove, that Christ's natural Body is not offered in the Sacrament or is not at all there, but only a representative or memorial of It.

- 1 S. Augustine, p. 20.
- 1 Facundus, p. 41.
- 1 S. Augustine, p. 183.
- 2 S. Augustine, p. 281.
- 1 S. Augustine, p. 282.
- 1 S. Augustine, p. 283.
- 1 S. Augustine, p. 223.
- 2 S. Augustine and S. Ambrose, p. 293.
- 1 Pseud-Ambrose, p. 193.
- 1 S. Ambrose, p. 193.
- 1 Cyril of Jerus., p. 193.

1 Epiphanius, p. 124.

1 Ephrem, p. 194.

IV. He has the following citations to prove, that incense was thought a sacrifice, in the ages when the purity of the Church was declining.

1 From the Apost. Canons, p. 168.

1 Chrysostom's Liturgy, p. 169.

St. Basil's Liturgy, p. 169.

1 Pseud-Hippolytus, p. 171.

1 S. James's Liturgy, p. 172.

V. He has the following citations to prove the Eucharist a feast, which neither Christian, Jew, Heathen, or Mahometan, ever doubted of.

1 Pseudo-Cyprian, p. 167.

1 Gregory Naz., p. 195.

1 Pseudo-Dionysius, p. 195, where he turns *δεῖπνον τῷν τελουμένων*, the 'Supper of all suppers.'

VI. He has other citations to prove, that first-fruits were offered, which is allowed on both sides.

1 From the Constitutions^o, where he makes the Constitutor say that "God permitted not Christians to sacrifice;" deflacking "*τὰ ἀλογα*" 'brutes,' which immediately follows in the Greek; with what conscience he did this, he himself knows.

1 Lactantius, p. 254.

1 Irenæus, p. 254.

VII. He has two citations to prove, that Christ is in heaven; from whence he would infer, that there are no Priests on earth.

1 Origen, p. 215.

2 S. Augustine, p. 215, 183.

VIII. He has one citation from Pseudo-Cyprian, to prove all Christians, Sacrificers, p. 161.

IX. He has his two supposed authorities to prove, that Deacons sacrificed in the Church.

^o a. p. 47. Ap.

1 The Canon of Ancyra, with the *Διάκονοι θύσαντες*, which I suppose he would be glad if I would strike out of the account, p. 160.

1 The Arabic Canon of Nice, which proves nothing at all, p. 160.

I look upon other citations of his as mere blanks or cumble, as being produced for no purpose; as that of Lactantius, concerning offering the bodies of dead animals, p. 274; that from Cyril of Alexandria, that animals are more excellent than senseless creatures, p. 34; two or three from St. Jerome, and one from St. Ignatius, concerning Bishops and Priests, p. 219; one from St. Basil's Liturgy, to prove that Christ took Bread and blessed it, p. 186. Another from Walafridus Strabo, intimating that Liturgies have been augmented, p. 241; and that from St. Cyprian, of the Church's giving place to the Capitol, p. 175. Now setting aside these, (and there may be some others) as wholly foreign to the present dispute, we want about four of a hundred.

We have then four citations remaining, which the Doctor might urge with some face, or five as the Doctor manages them; for he splits a paragraph of Justin Martyr into two, and cites one part of it, p. 178, the other, p. 248; the second is from St. Chrysostom, in his Sermon, p. 13, and Book, p. 31; the third from Clemens Alexandrinus, p. 182; the last from the Constitutions, p. 240. The first, third, and fourth, seem to say, that prayer and praise is the Christian Sacrifice; and the second, that the Eucharist is rather the Memory or Memorial than the Sacrifice. This last is considered, Chap. II. Sect. 1; the three others, Chap. II. Sect. 2. If Dr. W. had contented himself with these four authorities, he might have written with a plausible appearance of truth, and seemed to speak pertinently on the subject; but I am much mistaken if there be any passage in genuine antiquity that can keep the cause in countenance, if these four will not; and I apprehend I have said enough in my foregoing book to convince impartial readers, that even these four places are not against the doctrine of the Sacrifice; and if they were, yet sure, the general concurrence of other writers will be sufficient to determine the judgment of an unbiased inquirer;

especially when it is considered, that these very writers, all but one at least, do in other places sufficiently express their minds in favour of the Sacrifice; and that one, I mean Clemens Alexandrinus, if he do not by the *Logos* mean the Eucharist, yet very probably alludes to the material Sacrifice in those very words, which are in dispute; but his way of reasoning and expression are so much upon the sublime, that I dare not be positive in my opinion concerning him. However, this is evident upon the whole, that the champion, with whom I have been arguing, has brought near fifty authorities against his own doctrine, or rather against it than for it; and near an equal number, that make neither one way nor the other; some few citations he has made, in which I cannot see what end he proposed to himself but to make a show of learning; and four citations he has produced from the writers of the four first centuries, which a writer, that could have dressed them up with the advantages of fair colours and specious words, might have made to appear plausible to readers that were predisposed to be misled; but, as it has happened hitherto, the evidence and the advocates have been equally defective.

BRIEF REFLECTIONS

UPON A LATE BOOK ENTITLED, "AN ANSWER TO THE EXCEPTIONS MADE AGAINST THE LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD'S^a CHARGE, &c." SHEWING THE MISTAKES OF THE AUTHOR OF THAT BOOK, IN RELATION TO THE DOCTRINE OF THE SACRIFICE OF THE EUCHARIST.

My reader will excuse me, if I do not repeat the arguments which this writer has transcribed from those that have formerly written on the same side of the question, and the reply made to them already in the foregoing book ; and therefore I have very little to say to this gentleman ; for even his calumnies are all stale. Nor can I observe anything new in all the pages he has given us on this subject, but only a few errors and misrepresentations, and some graftings and improvements on the mistakes of those who have written before on that side.

P. 24, 25. He demands that we should shew reason, why the texts of Scripture, urged by us, "must be understood literally and not figuratively ;" and complains of the writers for the Sacrifice, that "they wrest words and expressions to a literal meaning." Now, certainly, all rational interpreters of Scripture and masters of controversy will agree with me, that the literal sense is to be preferred before any other, except there be some very strong and weighty reason to the contrary. And if our adversaries grant that we have the literal sense for us, as this writer seems to do, this is all we desire. For to assert, that any text is to be taken in a figurative sense, when there lies no just objection against the literal, is perfectly precarious. 'To wrest words to a literal sense,' is a phrase, which to me sounds a contradiction ; it is just as if one should say, 'the carpenter wrests his plummet to a straight line.'

Ibid. After having produced the words of St. Clement^b, he immediately adds those of St. Ignatius, in his Epistle to the

^a [i. e. Dr. Talbot.]

^b b, c. p. l. Ap.

Smyrnæans, c. 8. viz., "It is not lawful without the Bishop to baptize or make a love-feast." And after five lines he goes on thus, "These holy Fathers by the phrases, 'offering gifts,' 'performing gifts and Sacrifices,' do intend in these places the whole Ministerial office in general." He had mentioned no Fathers, but those two before named; and he had cited no words from the latter, but those just now rehearsed; and yet speaks of both of the holy men, as using the phrase of 'offering gifts,' &c. Certainly, there is a strange fate attends the adversaries of the Sacrifice as to this passage of St. Ignatius. Dr. Hancock and Dr. Wise do both cite it, as it stands in the interpolated Epistle; and so make this Apostolical man speak of 'offering, and presenting a Sacrifice' in the Christian Church: a proof, which, if it were found in the genuine works of St. Ignatius, they would never be able to evade. But this writer, that he might in something outdo those that had gone before him, expressly cites the true Ignatius, but means the supposititious; for the latter does indeed, in the place before specified, speak of 'offering,' but the other whose words he alleges does not. All three of these writers run their head against the same post; but this last shews himself the most hardy of the three, for he does it with open eyes.

P. 25, 26. He asserts, that "these Fathers (he should have said 'this Father,' viz., Clement) by the phrases, 'offering gifts,' 'performing gifts and Sacrifices,' and the like, do intend in these places the whole Ministerial office in general, or at least the whole service of the Church:" but he gives no reason for this assertion; but found it necessary roundly to affirm it, as the only expedient he could invent for the defence of his cause and of the Bishop of Lincoln's^c Translation of St. Clement. It is very evident, that the phrase of 'offering the gifts' does not in this Epistle mean, either 'the Ministerial office in general,' or 'the whole service of the Church.' This very writer, in the place now under our consideration, translates St. Clement's words thus; "We ought to do all things in the order which Christ has commanded us to do; to perform our offerings and services or ministrations at the appointed seasons." By these words it

^c [i. e. Bp. Wake's.]

is evident, that ‘to perform offerings’ (as he chooses to speak) was but one part of the Divine worship; the rest is expressed by ‘Services’ or ‘Ministrations:’ and these latter are more comprehensive words than the former. If ‘offering the Gifts, Sacrifices, &c.’ does ever signify ‘the whole service of the Church’ in the genuine remains of true antiquity, there must be some reason for this way of expression. And, I presume, our adversaries themselves will not be able to assign any better than this, viz., that the name of the whole is often taken from some considerable part. Thus the vulgar, when they say that such a Clergyman ‘preached,’ do often mean, that he performed the whole office of the Priest; and yet if there were no sermon, even the most vulgar would scarce bear with that man, who should use so very improper a way of speaking; much less is it to be supposed, that the primitive Fathers would express the whole service by ‘offering the Gifts,’ if no Gifts were offered.

P. 26. This writer tells us, that “the true import of Clement’s words would have been unintelligible and not to be explained, did they not receive light from the known language and usage of the ancient Church.” On the other side, I believe, that there is not one phrase used by this holy man in this Epistle, that may more easily be understood by one that never had looked into any other book but the Bible, than the phrase of ‘offering the Gifts:’ but the truth is, the Scriptural meaning of this phrase is inconsistent with the notions of these gentlemen; for there is no mention of any gifts being offered in the Old or New Testament but what are material; and therefore upon this occasion they appeal from Scripture to antiquity, but to their own confusion.

P. 27. “The ancients,” says this author, “sometimes apply the word *δῶρον* and *θυσία*, to the prayers of the Christian congregation, and especially to the devotion of the Communion-Service.” Suppose that they do this “sometimes,” this is not sufficient to prove this way of speaking to have been “the language of the ancient Church.” David calls the broken heart a sacrifice; but no man will from thence argue, that the word ‘Sacrifice’ denoted contrition of spirit, in the current language of the Jews of that age. To

prove that Prayer was the Gift offered in the primitive Church, he alleges the words of the Apostolical Constitutions, lib. ii. c. 23, which have been particularly considered in the foregoing book, Chap. II. Sect. 2. Now giving it for granted, that the Constitutions do at one particular place use this way of expression ; it will by no means follow, that this was the usual language of the Constitutors, much less of the Christian Church ; for against this one instance the reader will find thirteen or fourteen very clear examples of their using the word ‘Offering’ or ‘Sacrifice’ for the material Eucharist in those extracts, which I have taken from these Constitutions, in pp. 46, 47, 52, 53, of my Appendix. The writer had but this single twig to take hold of ; and I am afraid, this will scarce preserve him and his cause from sinking in the eyes of equitable judges. I will further allow him his citation from Tertullian, which he took from Cotelerius’s note on this passage in St. Clement ; nay, I will further grant his reference to St. Chrysostom, unsight and unseen, to say what he would have it, (for he has not produced the words); yet all these three citations prove no more than this, that three writers in 400 years’ time, did, once in their whole lives’ time, call Prayer a ‘Gift’ or ‘Sacrifice.’ Will this prove it to be the language of the Christian Church in opposition to those very many citations, even from the writings of these very Fathers and ancients themselves, with which I have presented my reader in the Unbloody Sacrifice ? He has indeed a dark fellow of a modern on his side, thus far, that he says, “ It is doubtful, whether St. Clement meant first-fruits or giving of thanks” in this place ^d. I call him ‘dark,’ because Monsieur Le Clerc, who published this man’s Annotations on the Epistle of St. Clement, gives no other account of him than this ; that he had written some notes in the margin of Cotelerius’s edition of St. Clement, which deserved to be considered, and that “ he was a learned man^e.” It is not improbable that Le Clerc meant himself; and that he ob-

^d [“Δῶρα. Nemo Veterum ita sine adjecto simpliciter loquitus est; ambiguum enim velitne primitias, gratiarum actiones, eleemosynam, &c. Sanguis et Corpus Domini sunt dona Dei.”—Clerici in Patres Apostolicos, p. 172.]

^e [“Præterea nonnulla addita sunt, ex manu viri docti, qui oræ editionis Cotelerii, quædam adleverat, digna quæ diligentius expendantur ab eruditis.”]—See Le Clerc’s Preface to the Patres Apost., [p. 2. Ed. Antw. 1698.]

trudes some notes on the world under the person of an anonymous man of learning, which he was ashamed to publish as his own. See how our present writer introduces this citation ; “ Some,” says he, “ of the learned men, who have written notes on this Epistle, &c.” Thus a single modern Annotator without name, or (which is worse) Monsieur Le Clerc, the great and known enemy of primitive Christianity, is by the writer of the book which I am now considering multiplied into a company of learned men ; for so this annotator is here styled ‘ Some of the learned men.’ But even this dark annotator, as if he had a mind to recant his former crudity, immediately adds, “ The Body and Blood of the Lord are the Gifts of God ;” which I look upon as the unwilling confession of an adversary to the Sacrifice, extorted from him by the force of Truth.

P. 29. This writer observes, that *προσφέρομεν* signifies ‘ we pray,’ three times in one Prayer, meaning that of the Clementine Liturgy^f. He does well not to cite his author for this signification of the word, for he had no other but Dr. Hancock ; nor can he produce one single instance from any good author, either ancient or modern, for this odd conceit. This very Prayer is an evidence against this sense of the word ; for when the Bishop says, *προσφέρομέν Σοι τὸν ἄρτον τοῦτον καὶ τὸ ποτήριον τοῦτο*, I hope no man will render the words, “ We pray this Bread and this Cup to Thee.” We have before seen what sorry work Dr. Wise has made, when he undertook to expound this Form of Oblation ; and we shall soon see, that this other gentleman is altogether as unfortunate in his glosses. At present I only take notice, that he is forced to give two several senses to the same word and in the same prayer ; and that for no other end, but to escape the irrefragable authority of this most ancient and most excellent Liturgy.

P. 29—31. But at last he is willing to allow “ other Oblations beside Prayer,” p. 29. But then he adds, “ It was not peculiar to the Bread and Wine alone to be so offered up, but other things also that were designed for the sacred uses of the Church, as oil and frankincense for incense, and also the first-fruits of their corn and vineyards.” It is

^f c. pp. 53, 54. Ap.

true, by the third Apostolical Canon, or the second sentence in the second Canon (according to the division in Cotelerius), ears of corn, and grapes, and oil for the lamps, and incense, (not frankincense, as this writer would have it) were allowed to be presented or brought to the Altar. Now that the reader may be fully convinced of the false reasonings, which this gentleman is guilty of, I will here give a literal translation of the whole Canon, which may be seen in my Appendix, p. 47. “If any Bishop or Priest offer anything in sacrifice on the Altar of God, beside what the Lord hath commanded, whether honey, or milk, or made liquor instead of wine, or birds, or animals, or pulse, over and above what is commanded, let him be deposed. Beside ears of new corn or grapes in their proper season, let it not be lawful to present or bring any thing to the Altar, but oil for the lamp, and incense for the time of the Holy Oblation. Let all other products be sent to the Bishop or Priests, as first-fruits, and not to the Altar.” Here are three several periods, which some divide into three several Canons, and call them the third, fourth, and fifth, as you may see in the Appendix. The first only speaks of the Oblation properly so called, of the Oblation as made by the Bishop or Priest; and charges, that he shall offer nothing “in sacrifice” but what the Lord hath commanded. If any one can doubt, what the Lord hath commanded to be offered, the twenty-fourth Canon of the third (*alias* sixth) Council of Carthage will resolve them, that it is “Bread and Wine;” see Appendix, p. 50. By this it is very evident that, if by ‘so offered’ he mean vocally offered at the Altar in the proper Sacrifice of the Eucharist by the Bishop or Priest, then it was peculiar to the Bread and Wine to be so offered; but if by ‘so offered’ he means brought to the Altar by the layman, then he says nothing to his own purpose. For though it is confessed that other things beside Bread and Wine might sometimes be placed on the Altar, yet these other things were never deemed to be any part of the Eucharistical Sacrifice; nor are these other materials required to be offered by the Bishop or Priest, by the Apostolical Canon. And St. Clement speaks of the Bishops, who had duly made the Oblation of the Gifts; and it is concerning the meaning of St. Clement’s words, that

our writer is now inquiring. And that, when the Apostolical Canons allow some other things beside Bread and Wine to be offered at the Altar, they mean no more than that laymen may bring them to the Altar and have them solemnly placed on it by the Celebrator, appears, by comparing the two last sentences; the first of which is, "Let it not be lawful to present or bring anything to the Altar, beside ears of new corn, &c.;" the other is, "Let all other products be sent to the Bishop or Priests." For I conceive it will easily be granted that the ears of corn were to be presented or brought, and the other products sent to the Bishop or Priests by the same sort of men, viz., the laity, or that the Bishops were not to provide oil for the lamps, or to bring ears of corn to Church to present at the Altar, or to send the first-fruits and products of the earth to themselves or to the Priests; but that laymen were to provide and bring to the Altar, or send to the Bishop or Priests the materials before mentioned. And therefore our Answerer must give me leave to say, that I cannot see the pertinence or consequence of what he here alleges, and that the very Canon to which he here refers is a direct evidence against him. And if anything more seem necessary to the clearing of this point, I must desire my reader to consult 'the Clergyman's Vade Mecum,' Part II. Edition the second, on this Canon.

P. 32. He would have it, that "there is a certain undeniable difference between an Oblation and a Sacrifice, and that every thing offered to God, though at the Altar, is not a Sacrifice."

Here he had a fair opportunity of letting us know, what that certain undeniable difference is, between an Oblation made at the Altar and a Sacrifice, if it had not been a difficulty beyond his power to unfold. And this is the common way of arguing with our adversaries, positively to affirm, and to leave it to others to prove. He speaks of our "warm contentions to make the Bread and Wine an Oblation to God before the Consecration." I can see no reason, why we should so warmly contend for what our adversaries grant, particularly Dr. Wise and this Answerer. We have indeed asserted it; and we see no reason to repent of this assertion. Every thing brought by the layman to be offered on the Altar was

in some sense an Oblation or Sacrifice, before the Priest had performed the sacred operations ; but what we chiefly contend for is, that the material Eucharist, after the Words of Institution had been repeated over it, was most solemnly and religiously offered to God in the primitive Church.

P. 33. The Answerer observes, that “it does not appear, that the taking the Sacramental Bread and Wine out of the general offerings at the Altar was founded upon any Divine Institution.” If by ‘Divine Institution’ he means any express words of Scripture, it is true. And it is as true, that we are not, by any explicit direction of Christ Jesus or of His Apostles, informed by whom or at whose expence the Bread and Wine shall be provided, or by whom it shall be brought to the Church and placed on the Lord’s Table. Our Saviour thought it sufficient to let His disciples know, that there was to be an Altar in His Church, to which they were to ‘bring their gifts,’ Matt. v. 23. What sort of gifts they were to be and in what proportion to be offered, He nowhere declares ; only when He consecrated and offered the Eucharist, He plainly enough declares, that Bread and Wine are the materials, which are principally required to be offered on His Altar. He could not suppose that any body of men, who called themselves Christians, would bring their gifts in so sparing and niggardly a measure, that there should not be a sufficient quantity of elements for the celebration of the Divine Mysteries ; much less did he caution men against offering more than was absolutely necessary to this purpose. Now it is certain, the sacred symbols must either be taken out of a mass of bread and wine, or else only just so much bread and wine must be offered, as was necessary for the holy action ; and therefore, except this Answerer can prove that no more was to be offered than what was absolutely necessary, it must unavoidably follow, that the Sacramental Bread and Wine must be “taken out” of the mass of loaves and wine presented at the Altar. If by ‘the general offerings’ he means the ears of corn or grapes, the money or other valuable things, which were sometimes offered on the Altar, but were forbidden there to be offered by the Apostolical and Carthaginian Canon, then he is of an understanding below what I take him to be ; for he supposes it

to be necessary, that other things beside Bread and Wine should be offered in order to the Eucharist by the practice of the primitive Church ; whereas it is evident that, though other things were permitted to be presented on the Altar, yet nothing was thought necessary but “what Christ commanded,” that is, Bread and Wine. I am apt to think that this Answerer’s meaning was, that it does not appear that the bringing the Gifts to the Altar, Matt. v. 23, has any necessary connection with the celebration of the Eucharist ; and, indeed, I cannot say that it has by any open declaration of Christ Jesus : but it is very evident, that the whole Church of Christ in the most pure and primitive times did believe that Our Saviour intended the bringing the Gifts to the Altar to be necessarily previous to the Holy Sacrament, as their universal practice does effectually testify ; and let our Answerer, when he is at leisure, tell us, where we shall find a better comment on the words of our Saviour. The truth is, the most primitive Christians never appear to have held a solemn public assembly but for the celebration of the Eucharist, or this at least was the most essential part of their common devotions ; and if therefore they were to bring their gifts to the Altar, when should they do it but upon this occasion ? And if the Bread and Wine were the most or the only necessary Oblation to be made at the Altar, as it is evident they were, it could be no question, whether the people should present them before the Eucharist or after it.

P. 33, 34. Another scruple proposed by this writer is much of the same sort with the former : “St. Clement of Rome does not only say that Our Lord commanded offerings to be made, but that He commanded them to be made at certain appointed seasons, at fixed times and hours. Now would Dr. Grabe, if yet alive, contend, that Christ has by Divine command fixed the times and hours when the Sacrament is to be administered ? I know he would not ;” and again he represents St. Clement as saying, that “Christ appointed the times and hours of celebrating the Supper,” p. 52. He translates St. Clement’s words rightly enough, viz., “Christ commanded offerings to be made at certain fixed times and hours ;” but then he gives them a turn of his own, when he

varies them in this manner, viz., that "Christ hath by a Divine command fixed or appointed the times and hours." That the reader may be convinced of the great difference between the real words of St. Clement and this gentleman's variation of them, I desire it may be observed, that it may truly be affirmed both of Christ and of the Church of England, that they have commanded the Eucharist to be celebrated at appointed fixed times; and yet it may as truly be denied, that either Christ or the Church of England have by any positive command fixed the precise time or hour, when it shall be done. Both Christ and the Church have commanded the Eucharist to be solemnized at certain appointed hours, not indeed explicitly and by any express law mentioning these hours; for there is no such law, either in the New Testament, or in the Rubrics, Canons, or other authoritative Constitutions of the Church. The Communion is indeed directed to be administered by our Church on certain great festival days; but at what time of those days, or whether in the forenoon or afternoon, the Church has, I conceive, nowhere determined. But yet both Christ and the Church have by very strong and inevitable implication commanded the Sacrament to be administered at certain appointed hours; because the very requiring of this duty to be performed does unquestionably imply, that it should be done at certain, determined hours; because the nature of the duty is such, that it must be performed in this manner or not at all. Some duties may be performed at any time, because they only require an exercise of our own minds and bodies, as Private Prayer and Fasting; but, on the other side, those duties which are to be performed by a community of men, personally present and acting jointly and in concert with one another, cannot be performed otherwise than at certain hours; and whoever therefore requires any such service to be performed must by unavoidable consequence require it to be done at certain hours, though he himself has not fixed those hours; for how can any numerous body of men meet and join in the celebrating of any solemnity, unless some determined hour be publicly known to be allotted for that purpose? Therefore both Christ, and our Church, has appointed the Sacrament to be administered at certain hours; and yet

these hours are not expressly determined either by our Saviour or by our Ecclesiastical legislators; and, by consequence, the Answerer cannot be justified, when he makes those propositions equivalent, viz., "Christ commanded offerings to be made at certain hours," and "Christ hath by a Divine command fixed those hours." And though it does not concern my argument with this writer, yet I shall easily be pardoned by my reader, if from this I take occasion to infer, that St. Clement cannot here be understood of the Jewish sacrifices in general; for God did not either explicitly or implicitly command the majority of them to be offered at certain times or hours. None but the festival sacrifices and those on the day of expiation were limited to any precise days; none but the Passover and the continual morning and evening sacrifices had particular hours assigned for their oblation. St. Clement mentions, in this Epistle^g, "the continual sacrifice, vows, offerings for sin, and trespass-offerings;" none of these, except the first, were appropriated to any certain hour by any express direction of the Levitical Law; nay, there was nothing in the nature of these sacrifices, that could make any certain day or hour necessary; for, generally speaking, they were offered by particular men, not by a numerous congregation, as the Christian Sacrifices ought to be; and therefore, though the assignment of some precise hour be necessary for the Oblation of the Eucharist, yet it was not in any measure necessary for the generality of the sacrifices offered by the Jews.

The sum of our writer's argument, which he would draw from St. Clement's saying that "Our Lord hath determined the times and hours" (as he falsely varies the words), is, that he is not to be understood properly or literally, when he speaks of 'Oblations' and 'Gifts:' but now, if this holy Father does indeed speak strictly and justly, when he only says, as he does, that "Our Lord has commanded the oblations and services to be performed at determined times and hours," then the argument for the reality of the Oblation, drawn from those words, stands in its full force. But let us for once suppose that St. Clement speaks with some latitude and impropriety, when he mentions "the determined times and

hours ;” yet it cannot from thence be fairly inferred that he uses the same latitude when he mentions ‘Gifts’ and ‘Oblations,’ except any man will suppose that he, who at one place expresses himself loosely, can never be allowed to write or speak properly ; and what then will become of our Answerer and his works ? If St. Clement be not to be understood strictly, when he speaks of “ determined times and hours ;” yet I hope our writer will grant that he speaks strictly, when he mentions ‘Services’ or ‘Ministrations’ to be performed in the Christian Church. And these last words stand in conjunction with ‘the Oblations’ in the very same sentence ; and I am apt to believe that it will be very hard to shew cause, why both are not to be taken in a proper literal sense.

P. 41. Whereas Dr. Hickes had cited Tertullian^b, as telling us, that the Oblation of Bread and Wine was imitated in the devotions of Mithra ; this Answerer cries out, “ We are come to a fine pass, when the doctrines of the Christian Sacraments must be learnt from the sentiments the heathen had of them.” Whereas it is evident, that Dr. Hickes argues not from the sentiments of the heathen but from the affirmation of Tertullian. “ The devil,” says he, “ emulates the Divine Sacraments themselves in the mysteries of the idols ; he baptizes some—and if I yet remember,—Mithra celebrates the oblation of bread.”

P. 44. “ I have shewed,” says the Answerer, “ that the verb προσφέρω signifies ‘to pray for.’ ” He has indeed shewed his good will to this purpose, as Dr. Hancock had done before ; but he has in reality only shewed his own insufficiency. But he adds, “ If it signify ‘to pray for,’ then why not ‘to consecrate?’ ” A most surprising argument, by which he may prove it signifies whatever it is convenient for his hypothesis to have believed. I deny not that ‘to offer’ does imply Consecration, because whatever is offered to God is thereby separated to a holy use ; but that ever it is used to signify Consecration any otherwise than as it is included in Oblation does not appear, and I am sure our writer has said nothing toward the proof of it. In the next page he undertakes to shew, that *offer* has the same signification in the Latin ;

^b r. p. 9. Ap.

but has nothing that looks like an argument, on this head. He cites St. Cyprian, and particularly his Epistle to Cæcilius, to prove his sense of the word. I am not sure, what particular passage he there aims at; but I am very certain, that this writer can never prove either of his meanings from that Epistle. I will give him one demonstration to the contrary: *Christus Sacrificium Deo Patri obtulit, et obtulit hoc idem quod Melchisedec obtulerat, id est, panem et vinum, Suum scilicet Corpus et Sanguinem*ⁱ. If *offerre* here signify ‘to pray,’ then Cyprian’s words must be rendered: “Christ prayed a Sacrifice to God the Father, and prayed the same that Melchisedec had prayed, that is, Bread and Wine, viz., His own Body and Blood.” ‘To pray Bread and Wine’ one would think were sufficiently absurd. If he will have it signify ‘to consecrate,’ then the Latin must be thus translated: “Christ consecrated a Sacrifice to God the Father, and consecrated the same that Melchisedec had consecrated, that is, Bread and Wine, viz., His own Body and Blood.” Now if Christ only consecrated His Body and Blood without offering them, then it must be said that, in St. Cyprian’s sense, Christ was no sacrificing Priest; nor will it be possible for any man to use any words whereby to denote an oblation, if *offerre Sacrificium, offerre panem et vinum, Suum Corpus et Sanguinem*, will not amount to this meaning. But the truth of the matter is, this writer pleads for a cause, that he must be sensible can never be defended, until words have lost their true sense or signification.

P. 45. But he has one citation from a modern writer, whose authority I truly value; I mean the learned and worthy Regius Professor of Oxford^k; who, in his Discourse of Church Government, p. 273, has these words; “In the Fathers of the next age” (after Irenæus), “‘to consecrate the Lord’s Supper’ is so constantly called *προσφέρειν* in the Greek and *offerre* in the Latin, [that is, ‘to offer’ it,] that it is needless to cite any testimonies from them.” Now this testimony is, in truth, directly against our Answerer; for the Professor turns *προσφέρειν* in the Greek, *offerre* in the Latin, by the English word ‘to offer;’ whereas our Answerer would have them signify ‘to consecrate:’ and in order to stifle so clear an evidence

ⁱ [Ep. 63.]

^k [i. e. Dr. Potter, afterwards Abp of Canterbury.]

and wrest it to his own meaning, the words inclosed within the hooks [] are by our writer thus falsified, viz., in Latin *offerre*, ‘to offer.’ And it is further very apparent, that the Professor thought, by saying this, he had proved the Eucharist to be a Sacrifice in the judgment of the Fathers; for his very next words are these: “So that it is plain, both from the design and nature of the Lord’s Supper, and from the concurrent testimony of the most primitive Fathers, who conversed with the Apostles or their disciples, that it was reckoned through the whole world a commemorative Sacrifice.” The conclusion, which our Answerer draws from these words, is quite contrary to that which the author intended; and I leave it to my reader to judge, what it is that drives our adversaries to such sorry prevarications. I beg the Professor’s pardon, if I misrepresent his thoughts, when I venture to explain the words cited from him to mean no more than this, viz. that “the familiar language of the Fathers, in using the phrase of ‘offering’ the Eucharist, where we now say ‘consecrate,’ or ‘administer’ it, shews that it was the received notion of antiquity, that the Eucharist is a commemorative Sacrifice.” So, to give a parallel instance, any Divine, who intended to prove the antiquity of the use of Chrism in Confirmation, might say, that “the Fathers do so constantly use the word ‘anoint’ for what we now express by ‘laying on of the Bishop’s hands’ in Confirmation, that it is needless to cite any testimonies.” Now if any eminent Divine had thus expressed himself on this subject, and some writer, to underprop a sinking cause, had from thence inferred that the Greek *χρίω* signified ‘to lay on hands,’ he had by this proved himself to be a writer of the same size with our anonymous Answerer.

P. 50, 51. This writer betrays so great a degree of injudiciousness in what he has said concerning Irenæus, that I persuade myself, every reader that has considered what I have cited from him in the foregoing book, or that pleases to turn his eye to my Appendix, pp. 4—6, and consult my transcripts from him, will easily discern his palpable mistakes in relation to this most primitive writer. When he would evade what Irenæus says¹ of “the Apostles’ serving the

¹ b. p. 4. Ap.

Altar," by taking it for granted that he speaks figuratively, he does tacitly confess, that, if Irenæus did indeed mean what he said, his words are an unanswerable proof of the Eucharistical Sacrifice. And if he will persist in his assertion, that they, who affirm any Divine Truth and prove it by authority either from Scripture or antiquity, are bound to demonstrate that those authorities are to be taken in a literal sense; let him withal reflect, what advantage he gives to Quakers and enthusiasts, who assert that every thing said of Water-Baptism and the Eucharist is to be understood in a spiritual sense, and not of those outward rites. Whereas on the other side, according to all rules of equity, when any man denies any authority to be literally taken, the proof of it lies upon the denier; for all writers are presumed to speak in a literal sense, until the contrary be made appear by some very decisive argument.

The Answerer tells us, that Irenæus^m, "to shew that Christians still offer mercy and good works and oblations of piety and charity, adds, 'and (Christ) also, counselling His disciples to offer unto God the first-fruits of His creatures, took the Bread which is God's creature, and giving thanks said, This is My Body, and taught this to be the new Oblation of the New Testament.'" And can an Answerer think that he deserves a reply? By such argumentations as these the Quakers would persuade us out of both the Sacraments. And if this writer will grant that *postulatum* to them, upon which he builds his discourse in this place, viz., that "the figurative sense is to be preferred to the literal," they may safely challenge him to answer their cavils.

I have said thus much in reply to this book, not that I thought it deserved or wanted a confutation, but only to convince my reader of the poor shifts and thin palliations that our antagonists are reduced to, when they undertake to write against us. There is only one thing more I shall take notice of in our Answerer's book; which I rather do, because so great a man as the Lord Bishop of Norwichⁿ has seemed to countenance it in the second Edition of his Charge, p. 23, than that I esteem it worthy of my consideration on any other account. He would prove, p. 68, 69,

^m c. p. 4. Ap.

ⁿ [Dr. Charles Trimmell.]

that by ‘Oblations,’ in the Prayer “for the whole estate of Christ’s Church,” is meant only ‘alms,’ because the Scotch Liturgy calls the alms ‘Oblations.’ This indeed proves that the Compilers of that Liturgy believed that alms were oblations; but, surely, it is far from proving that they or the Reviewers of our Liturgy in 1661-2 did not think the Bread and Wine to be Oblations also. Nay, this gentleman himself confesses, that the Scotch Liturgy directed the elements “to be offered up;” and therefore there can no doubt remain but that they thought them proper Oblations too. And if Archbishop Laud (to whose notes on the Common Prayer Book our Reviewers “had a great regard,” as my Lord Bishop of Norwich confesses) and the other Compilers of the Scotch Liturgy did direct the elements to be “offered up,” why may we not with reason believe that the alterations in our Liturgy at the Restoration were intended for the same purpose? “Aye, but,” says the Answerer, “they left out the words ‘offer up,’ that is, they did not insert them;” but though they do not direct them to be offered up in the Rubric, they provided a clause, whereby to offer them up together with the alms in the following Prayer. And if his argument be good, that by omitting the words ‘offer up’ in the Rubric they did not design the elements to be ‘Oblations;’ then it may as justly be argued, that by omitting the word ‘Oblations’ in the Rubric concerning the alms, their meaning was, that they did not intend that alms should pass under the name of ‘Oblations;’ and that, therefore, by ‘Oblations’ in the Prayer for the Church Militant they meant not the money given for the use of the poor. In a word, we are very sure that the universal Church for fifteen hundred years by the word ‘Oblations’ meant principally the Bread and Wine; and, I believe, our adversaries would be hard put to it to produce one instance, where the ‘Oblations’ offered by the Priest in the Eucharistical Prayers do not include the Bread and Wine. No man that is not wholly destitute of temper as well as judgment can delight in perpetuating a dispute about words. Nor is it worth while to insist, that ‘Oblations’ here, in a prayer after the Offertory and long before the Words of Institution, signify only the Bread and Wine; it is sufficient, that those elements

must be comprised, if not chiefly meant, by that word. For I leave it to my reader, whether he will understand our Church according to the Liturgic language of all ages past or according to the new glosses of our adversaries.

I take no notice of the citations, which this writer has produced from the modern Bishops and Doctors. He had even as good have quoted the Bishops of Oxford and Norwich; for their authority is as great as that of any that the Answerer has alleged, except that of Archbishop Laud, who asserted the Sacrifice of the primitive Church, and whom he therefore misrepresents, when he says that he placed the Sacrifice “in breaking the Bread and pouring out the Wine,” p. 63; whereas his Grace expressly says, that “the Sacrifice offered by the Priest is the commemorative Sacrifice of Christ’s Death, represented in Bread broken and Wine poured out;” by which words he supposes the Bread already broken, the Wine already poured out, before the Sacrifice is offered; and that therefore the Sacrifice does not consist in breaking or pouring out the Bread or Wine. He treats Archbishop Laud, as he has done the most ancient Fathers and the Rev. Dr. Potter; that is, he would make them contradict the Truth and themselves by forced and unnatural constructions.

ADVERTISEMENT.

IN a pamphlet lately published, entitled, "King Charles the First's Bishops no Puritans," there is, by way of appendix, a comparison drawn of some modern doctrines with the doctrines delivered by Popish writers. There are two passages in it, which I think deserve my notice.

The first is p. 31, under the title of 'the Real Presence,' (which is a word, that I do not remember that I ever used with approbation.) Here this writer produces the following words from The Propitiatory Oblation, p. 100, viz., "When he is receiving the Holy Eucharist, he has the price of his Redemption in his hand or lying before his eyes." In the opposite column are the words of Harding in his book against Bishop Jewell, intimating "the thing received in the Sacrament to be the very real Body of Christ." With Harding's words I am not concerned. As for my own expressions, I do not think they need any justification with those that know and believe the Church Catechism; for if "the Body and Blood of Christ are verily and indeed received by the Faithful in the Lord's Supper," then I suppose the price of their Redemption is verily and indeed received by them. And as for those who do not believe their Catechism, I shall only remind them that they are guilty of an opinion, which St. Ignatius thought to be heretical; for "they do not confess that the Eucharist is the Body of Christ, Which suffered for us, and Which the Father raised again by His goodness," c. 7. *ad Smyrn.*

The other passage is p. 32, under the title of 'the Sacrifice of the Eucharist.' The words, cited from The Propitiatory Oblation, are as follows; "The Bread and Wine in the Sacrament are by Consecration made a representation of the Great

Sacrifice on the Cross, and on that account ‘propitiatory’ in the most proper sense.” Now if by ‘propitiatory in the most proper sense’ I had meant, in that sense that the original was so, and that the Papists must allow their Sacrifice to be so, if it be the very substance of Christ’s Body; then I had indeed been guilty of an inexcusable excess: but in the very sentence here produced, and which is in the fifteenth page of the Propitiatory Oblation, I only assert that it is made a “representation of the Grand Sacrifice,” and therefore propitiatory only in virtue of That. And if this writer had been pleased to have compared these words with those in p. 9, he might have seen, that by ‘propitiatory in the most proper sense’ I mean ‘expiatory;’ for there I explain ‘propitiatory’ as implying, 1st, The obtaining pardon for sin; 2ndly, Rendering the Divine Majesty more propitious. The first I call the most proper sense, as I suppose all will allow it to be. And again, p. 26, you have these words, viz., “Hitherto I have been shewing that the Holy Eucharist is an Oblation, whereby we do in general render God propitious to us; but I have before hinted that there is a more eminent sense of the word, whereby it especially denotes Expiation and Atonement for sin.” And in what sense the Eucharist is an expiatory Sacrifice, I presume I have plainly enough shewed both in the Propitiatory Oblation and in the Unbloody Sacrifice. I find there is no security against such insidious adversaries, except we repeat our explanations as often as we repeat our terms, and multiply words while we are writing controversy, as if we were drawing leases or conveyances. This writer, p. 44, cites Dr. Pain for truly stating the nature of a propitiatory Sacrifice, viz., that “it suffers a vicarious punishment in another’s stead;” but then how could a *Mincha* be propitiatory and expiatory, as it certainly was, Lev. v. 11—13.

ADDENDA AND CORRIGENDA TO PART II.

The following additions and corrections by the Author have not been inserted in their proper places in the body of the work.

Book, p. 94, line 13, read “sacrificer.”

P. 150, line 20, after “Sacrifice,” add, “And Josephus in this respect joins in with Philo. *Οπως δὲ μάλιστα θύοντες σωφρονῶμεν ἐπὶ ταῖς θυσίαις, ὑπ’ ρ τῆς κουνῆς εὐχεσθαι δεῖ πρώτον σωτηρίας, εἰθ’ ὑπὲρ ἔσωτρων.* *Contra Apion.*, lib. ii. p. 1074. [Ed. Genevæ, 1634; Ed. Hudson, p. 1380.]”

P. 157, margin, after Part I. add, pp. 135—139.

P. 277, after line 33, add this paragraph :

“It may seem strange to some, that I have not mentioned fasting, as an exercise very proper to prepare men for the Eucharist, and to express their reverence toward it. But it is to be remembered that I take my rules of preparation from the Primitive Church. They who communicated every day could not prepare themselves for it by fasting the day before, unless they had made their whole lives one continual course of abstinence ; and they who received thrice, twice, or once a week, had no reason to doubt but by abstaining every Wednesday and Friday till three o’clock in the afternoon, (which was then the general practice,) they did what was sufficient, as to this particular. Fasting has always been thought a very proper exercise for Christians, whether they communicate or not. And of the two, they who do not communicate have the greatest reason to fast ; for they, by their own confession, are unworthy of the Sacrament, and therefore ought to look on themselves as in the state of Penitence.

The Primitive Christians did for the most part celebrate the Eucharist before day-light, and therefore most probably took it upon an empty stomach ; yet there is no just cause to believe that they thought this necessary, at least I am not sensible that they tell us so. Tertullian, in his Treatise of Fasting, says not a word on this head, though he was very rigid as to the duty of fasting in general. But it is very

probable, that the custom of communicating before day-light brought in this other practice of receiving the Sacrament in their fasting spittle^a. Toward the latter end of the fourth century, it seemed a fault^b to some to break one's fast on the Communion-day before receiving the Sacrament; and, soon after, the Priest^c was forbidden to administer it after he had eat or drunk. Yet even in the 5th century, some^d whole Churches chose to have their Communion in the evening, and upon a full stomach: therefore the practice of the Church was not always and everywhere the same as to this particular. It is well known, that our Saviour first gave it to the Apostles after Supper; therefore to take it on an empty stomach cannot be absolutely necessary. They who find that abstinence exalts their devotion, ought by all means to use it on this occasion, according to the best examples of the fourth age of Christianity and of the following times. But there are many who cannot communicate fasting without great uneasiness and indevotion, unless they could go directly from their bed to the Altar; and these men must indulge the cravings of an infirm nature, so far as to quiet their spirits and preserve a due attention of mind in the service of God. This I say especially in relation to those Clergymen, who have crazy bodies, and have no assistance on Communion-days. For they who are to speak for two hours together with little intermission, will find by dear-bought experience, that they destroy their own constitutions, if they allow no supply to nature. And, indeed, we of this northern climate are vain, if we pretend to imitate the old Eastern, African, or Italian Christians in their fastings. Our air is much more severe than theirs, and preys with a much sharper edge on our spirits and vitals. But both Clergy and people ought to confine themselves to what is barely sufficient to keep nature from sinking, and especially to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, when they come to appear before God.

^a Tertullian *ad Uxor.*, lib. ii. c. 6, supposes, that the woman who had carried home some of the Eucharistical Bread would take it in the morning early, *ante omnem cibum*; because this was then the time of receiv-

ing it in public.

^b See *Responsa Timothei Alexandr.* in Beveridge's *Pandects*, vol. ii. p. 169.

^c (Concil. Carth. 3. Act 6. Can. 29. p. 51, Ap.)

^d See *Socrat. Histor.*, lib. v. c. 22.

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